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THE BIRTHDAY FESTIVAL

ONE familiar feature in the life of TOC H, wonderfully exemplified in the Festival days and nights, merits a few words. It is the medley of grave and gay. To the new comer there is something reckless in our sudden transitions from hymns to harlequinade and back again, but there can be no shadow of doubt that in its sincerity in both kinds Toc H possesses a secret of great price. To begin with, this may be part of our legacy from the ELDER BRETHREN. For they were wont to express their whole hearts, now in a ribald song and now by some unspoken *Sursum corda*, in the face of death. The roads to Ypres and Cambrai and Jerusalem, trodden in such suffering gallantry, robbed the marching song of its ribaldry: *Rogeronum* to us cannot seem blasphemous. And, further than that, the ELDER BRETHREN and their surviving companions had found the true spring of all natural human gravity and gaiety. The War is half-forgotten by some, or remembered with loathing, but let us never forget that its great hours (whether of fighting or of "rest") were those in which the serving man found life to be a vivid and a *whole* thing. In the common fellowship of his common service he really *lived*—more simply and completely than he had ever done before. The grave and the gay of living hour by hour were all of one piece. They "belonged." And if Death came to himself or to a comrade it was almost a part of life; the greatly-believing saw it as Life itself. Dying can never be other than a grave thing, but in the War it seemed at times grandly gay. Above all the cruelty and stupidity of the business, spite of all "grousing" and vain expectation, there did prevail that "gaiety and joyalty of mind," which an English soldier three and a quarter centuries earlier had noted among our men then in Flanders.

Toc H is out to recapture and use again the best in the spirit of ten years ago. It has found the fellowship (sometimes perilously near lost after the Armistice) and is finding again the service in which all men can stand together. Shall it not also have the deep "joyalty of mind" which not only breaks out into loud laughter at inconsequent moments, but which runs through the most solemn? We are re-learning the lesson that all honest life is one whole, that there are not two worlds of Sunday and of Monday, that things which are good are not divided

into "sacred" and "profane." This "seeing life steadily and seeing it whole" is not the discovery of Toc H alone: probably it belongs to the best spirit of the time everywhere.

Like as not this is the true explanation of the undoubted revival of the last year or two of interest in the figure of St. FRANCIS OF ASSISI. Men of all religious opinions and some with very few, have been eagerly reading the biography, the words and the legend of that "little poor man" of so long ago. Some may not find it easy, at first sight, to connect FRANCIS with Toc H. And yet it would be hard to name a single other man who *thought* more "fairly," *loved* more "widely," *witnessed* more "humbly" or *built* more "bravely." The highway-robber, the field-flower and the bird, the fire with which the surgeon seared his sick eyes, were to him all members of one family—he called them "Sister" and "Brother." He gave away all and wrapped himself in a brown blanket, not from any inward-looking self-torture, but that he might not be hindered in his contact with the real life of fellowship and service which, outward-looking, he saw as one whole in God. He taught his friars not only to abandon rank (and indeed they were as mixed a company as any we can show) but to find nothing irreconcilable in the hard night of prayer and the busy day in the hayfield or the leper-house, in the country songs of their own people and in the great hymn of praise which he wrote for them. It was a life of extraordinary hardship—and "joyalty of mind."

In a different time most of us are called to serve in a different fashion from FRANCIS. Our job means cheerful sacrifices on a different scale from his—though one might see a quaint contact between his praises of "Lady Poverty" and our "Glory be that we are stony-brokeum"! A recent writer has said "With the Franciscans the Gospel was an inner light revealing new value in all the world about them. It was one of their notable traits that, wherever their influence was felt, the common things of life received a sort of religious consecration . . . Common human life was, so to speak, the field of their spiritual operation. They were the apostles of a Christian humanity." All the road is not the same for the "little poor man", "God's Jester", in the 13th century and for the Toc H member in the 20th. But are not the adventure and the goal all one?

I. *The Thanksgiving*

THE ground-plans of All Hallows Church and of Tubby himself (if you can catch him horizontal—as, for instance, when asleep, which is rare) are much alike to the eye. And Toc H has at last grown so big that it cannot be contained in the one, nor compassed in a week's car-run by the other. It was plain to the 1924 Birthday Committee from the beginning that thanks would have to be given in two places at once, All Hallows and St. Dunstan-in-the-East, and as time went on St. Margaret Pattens had to be added as a third. Further it was decided that, as far as possible, visiting members should have the opportunity of using All Hallows, that St. Dunstan's should hold the greatly grown London Branches and that those who applied latest for tickets should go to St. Margaret's. Yet none of these three congregations was to be regarded as in any sense a mere "overflow meeting"; the Thanksgiving was all one. In All Hallows, well accustomed to the ways of Toc H, nothing now appears strange

but St. Dunstan's stolid "loose-box" pews and the remarkable ugliness of St. Margaret's were enlivened by a service surely as unusual as anything in their history. To thoughtful persons who know their City churches this may have given an added touch of delight.

THE PILGRIM'S WAY.

The actual words of the service should be in the possession and often under the eyes of every member of Toc H. No one needs to be told that the *Treasury of Prayers and Praises*,* which contains them, was compiled by Tubby, but it is right to add that the beautiful form in which the pages are cast is due to Bradders. The words of the Thanksgiving are the proper stuff for pilgrims. They were "first printed a stone's throw from St. Dunstan-in-the-East," 250 years ago, for "A tinker out of Bedford, A vagrant oft in quod, A private under Fairfax, A minister of God." And the words lost nothing of their first amazing ardour when they were addressed in the three churches to Toc H *Christian* and L.W.H. *Christiana*. *Evangelist* (Pat Leonard at All Hallows, Tubby at St. Dunstan's) welcomed them, and many spoke with them in the voices of well-known members, on the Pilgrim's Way. Thus welcomed they "gave three leaps for joy, and went on, singing." And when the *Shepherds* bade them go "to the highest hill, called Clear," and look, they answered "We think we see something of the Gate and something of the Glory." Thus did they look back with thanksgiving on the year passed in this pilgrim family, and forward without dismay to every arduous passage ahead.

BISHOP BRENT'S ADDRESS.

It was specially fitting that the company should be addressed by a pilgrim about to return to his own distant country, whither Tubby and Pat are so soon to follow him. Bishop Brent, once of the Philippine Islands, now of Western New York, spoke in St. Dunstan's immediately before the pilgrim's "colloquy," and in All Hallows after the *Benedicite* which ended it. The substance of his message to both was the same: in All Hallows his words were these:—

"It is a great pleasure for one who has come from Overseas, but who shared the life of a soldier in France during the War, to be with you upon this festival occasion. Toc H was not unknown to the soldiers of the American Army. It comes to my memory as a centre of hospitality, fellowship and service. In the midst of the war's organised confusion it was a haven of peace and rest. I always think of it as of roses in December. It was a place where the fragrance of the Christian life was the soul of everything that was said and done. Fellowship and service—is there anything in life that can compare with them? Without fellowship there is no life; loneliness is death.

"Christian fellowship is that door by which we enter into others' lives and see the beauty that is there and appreciate it for ourselves. Then we in turn must give all we have in order to cement the friendship. In order that we may serve well we must know the value, the potential value of human nature, and that is everywhere you find man. There are not two kinds of human nature, one for the black or the yellow man and another for the white. It is the same human nature beneath the surface of every personality of whatever sort, north, south, east, and west, and when the world comes to recognise that and to give equal recognition and equal reverence to human nature wherever you find it, then the world will be at peace, and not until then.

"Service—how can we render good service? Perhaps some of you are familiar with Joseph Conrad's novels—novels that are full of knowledge of human nature; we recognise this great author as being a servant to his generation. He tells us the secret of his power to serve in some reflections concerning his own life. He had an instinctive horror of losing that complete possession of himself, which is the first condition of good service. None can serve unless first

* To be had (price 6d.) either from H.Q. or from All Hallows Porch Room.

they have stored up in themselves a power and a substance which has been won by the sweat of the human brow. Anything in the way of service which does not come from character cannot be of high value, and character must consist in that ability to control all our powers and gifts so as to use them to the best advantage.

"Now to-night there is a re-dedication going on throughout the fellowship of Toc H, a re-dedication of self to God for the purpose of ministering to our fellows. But we cannot minister to our fellows unless we have within us that which can come from only one source—from our great white companion, Jesus Christ, and when once we know what it is to have Him as a personal friend we are equipped to be true friends to our fellows.

"May I just say one word about a defect in many societies which stand for fellowship and service. Men are too easily discouraged when they find no immediate results coming from their efforts, and often their ideals fade away and are lost without fruition. The truest way to hold fast to an ideal is to live up to it, to endeavour steadily to live up to it. Stability of purpose—that is what the world needs to-day more than anything else, and I pray to God on this Birthday Festival of Toc H that all the comrades will re-dedicate themselves to the central Comrade. Then whatever difficulties lie ahead they will not be swept aside but will press on towards the goal until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, and their work is done. God grant to us that our fellowship may be staunch and strong and stable until He gives us safe lodging and holy rest in His home beyond this."

THE SANCTUARY AND THE BATTLE CROSS.

The congregations of the three churches then employed the next quarter of an hour in different ways. In All Hallows the "kindred upstood" to sing the Festival Hymn as a little procession moved to the northern Chapel of Cœur de Lion. Year by year this ancient corner of the church begins to renew its former glory, not by regaining the recorded treasure of jewels and gold of which it was stripped at the Reformation—that might well prove an embarrassment of riches—but by becoming the home of things in themselves beautiful and in their meaning of great significance to Toc H. In 1922 the Prince's Lamp was deposited, to burn perpetually, on the tomb of Sir John Croke. In 1923 the gilded and emblazoned casket was set to safeguard the Lamp, and the sword of Edmund Street was lifted up as a sign to us who succeed him in his pilgrimage. And in 1924 the space between these two symbols of Fellowship and Service was restored, after so long forgetfulness, to the use for which it was intended by its founder-kings. The dull monument, which used to block the eastern end of the chapel, has been wholly removed. During the busy weeks before the Birthday masons and paviours, working only at night so as to leave the daily life of the church unhampered, raised the great stones of the floor and built them up into wide-sweeping sanctuary steps. While this work went forward, little relays of London members slept within call, and were roused now and again to sift the earth as some new patch was laid bare of pavement. There were few actual "finds," but one night a corner of the vault under Sir John Croke's tomb was reached. It was found that it had long since been broken into and rifled, and the lid of the coffin, studded with brass nails and covered with perished brown leather, had been left unfastened. The vault was bricked up again, the new pavement finished, and upon it was set up, as a temporary loan, the magnificent carved and painted altar which many members must have seen last summer in the Basilica at Wembley. Thus has the Cœur de Lion Chapel been changed from a "blind alley," closed with a funeral reminder of mortality, into an open gateway to the life in God.

The Festival Hymn over, the Patron stepped forward and drew aside the curtains which disclosed the restored sanctuary. He spoke but one sentence—and it might well be the corporate "ejaculation" of Toc H: "With proud thanksgiving, let us remember our Elder

Brethren, and try, with God's help, to do our duty." There followed a very brief but very touching ceremony. Bishop Talbot, a noble figure indeed in cope and mitre, re-dedicated the sanctuary, and with it the battle-cross of his own son "to the Glory of God, and in memory of his servant Gilbert, and all the Elder Brethren."*

Then the congregation stood and sang *Te Deum*—"remembering that here, in 1535, the English of it was first heard." As they sang the door opened and a great company of fresh pilgrims, yet all of this family, began to march across the church.

TOWER HILL.

While the singing and the closing ceremony had been going forward in All Hallows the congregations of St. Dunstan's and St. Margaret's had formed themselves into a marching and converging column, a very picture of the moving traffic of the pilgrims' way. Tower Hill was, for the moment, the Delectable Mountain of their aim. Let one of those who marched among them tell the story:—

"Pilgrims' conversation was over, and as the organ pealed out, the people, singing joyfully, began to pour into the street. Pew by pew the aisles emptied in orderly fashion, and the procession down Great Tower Street grew silently longer. Torches beckoned us to All Hallows, and the sudden blaze of light into which we stumbled by the south door, blinded our eyes for a moment to what we had come to see—the Mother Church thronged with the family and the dark outline of Gilbert's Cross standing in the distance near the Lamp in the restored sanctuary of Richard's Chapel.

"Through the north door we passed out into the darkness. Torchlights, held high by bare-armed scouts and blown northwards by a steady breeze, ringed Tower Hill and showed dimly the gathering crowd, waiting quietly until the two thousand worshippers from the three churches filled the space and made one great congregation surrounding the Bishops and Chaplains. A flash from the side discovered the unexpected presence of the press photographer and his accessories on the roof of a familiar coffee stall, and for a second the scene stood out clearly—the white robes, the upturned faces, the expectant attitude, the stragglers still hurrying to the edge of the crowd, the shadowy Tower in the background. For the second time this year Tower Hill watched a great act of witness. Last March, at the end of the Mission, the workaday life of the Hill, its idlers and its orators, bared their heads while Oogaf led the 'Our Father.' On this Birthday night, in the darkness and evening quiet of the great city, folk from many places came together as one family in Christ, to receive the one benediction and go forward rededicated and re-inspired to their common task.

"A few minutes later a very different procession sprang spontaneously into existence, and the same family marched four abreast, double quick time through the heart of London, making the city ring with familiar marching songs, and lightheartedly holding up the traffic from Mark Lane to Ludgate Circus—'*It's a long way to Tipperary*'. It made more than one think back a few years—and forward too."

2. *The Family Party*

The exuberant procession, by train or on foot, duly arrived at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, just as rain began to fall. Supper in the library was a glorious strife of tongues, both eating and greeting, in all the known fashions and accents of the British Isles. And then the

* For the origin of this cross see the JOURNAL of November, 1924, p. 291.

hall upstairs began to fill, finished filling, and still continued to fill. The walls and the front of the galleries were hung round with the newly-made banners—many of these very beautiful—of the Branches and Groups, and the scene which confronted the audience from the platform was a representation in paint and canvas (the work of a few long nights at H.Q.) of the two lower stories of old Talbot House at Poperinghe. Its familiar double doors swung inwards at the first notes of the National Anthem, and the Prince of Wales, guarded by Tubby and the Gen. stepped out (as they may well have done before—in other garb and on a sterner day) into the “street.” The sound that rose from the floor and galleries of the hall was like a wave which lifted mountain-high, hung for a moment in air, then turned over and burst against the ramp of the platform. The Patron could but smile his answer and wave his programme to the company; then he came down to his place in the front row, and the concert began. The evening was to hold that medley of grave and gay, to the meaning of which reference has already been made a few pages back.

MUSIC AND LAMP-LIGHTING.

MANCHESTER BRANCH opened the ball with four really gleeful catches, or catchy glees—*The Frog Round, The Bee and the Pup, The Mosquito, and Ilkka Moor*. At the third the audience buzzed like maniacs, and at the fourth opened their throats “’baht ’at.” FREDERICK RANALOW sang Sullivan’s *King Henry VIII’s Song*—a glorious voice for a glorious song—and then GEORGE SPRAGG recalled nights in the old concert hall in the garden at Pop by reciting again *The Hell-gate of Soissons* and *If*. LEICESTER BRANCH, minus their pianist, gallantly tackled two choruses and were rewarded by a sympathetic answering chorus of *O my, what a rotten song* from the audience. Then, in order to build some sort of bridge between an uproarious mood and the silent minutes and the ceremony which were to follow, the Misses GWYNNETH and CATHERINE DAVIS, L.W.H. members of the orchestra, played the violin charmingly.

“LIGHT” and the first LIGHTING OF NEW LAMPS followed. The form of these two ceremonies has already become traditional. Each makes a familiar picture, but with every year an altered detail here and there helps to keep them (if they need such help) from becoming formal. This time light grew outwards from the single flame of the Prince’s Lamp, was passed by the Patron to two Toc H Rovers and through their tapers spread from hand to hand, Lamp to Lamp, down the long line on each side of the hall. The words were spoken, and the following pause was filled with a far-away *Last Post*. The second picture, the Lighting of New Lamps, had its familiar centre—the Patron sitting in his chair, with Tubby bending over to give him a personal touch with each Branch as it came forward. There was no herald this time to announce who came, but the little orchestra, which served us so faithfully from first to last, supplied an undercurrent of great music from Purcell, Tschaiowsky and Handel. In succession the Lamp-bearers issued from the open doors of the Old House and made their semicircle to kneel before the Lamplighter; their banners were held aloft in the doorway by a second delegate, who retired again as the next Branch stepped out. Altrincham, Belfast, Bermondsey, Bromley, Croydon, Gateshead, Grantham, Kensworth, Lewisham, Maida Vale, Newcastle, Norwich, Nottingham, Reading, Sidcup, South Shields, West Kent, Wimbledon, Wimborne, Woolwich, the Federated Malay States—this was the order of them, and there was a burst of applause for each one. A special cheer greeted those from overseas, not only for F. M. S., but for Belfast: the audience realised that the Irish Lamp-bearer failed to kneel from lack, not of loyalty, but of human legs. Then the Prince rose to speak.

THE PRINCE’S SPEECH.

“Fellow members of Toc H—(cheers)—I am relieved to find that I have not got to stand up on this platform all by myself, but I am bearing the burden of having to be the only speaker this evening. There are many who could do it much better than myself. (Cries of

"No.") I should like to ask 'Tubby' Clayton to speak instead of myself, but I see that he is down to sing a song. (Laughter: Tubby, of course, sang *Rogermum* at the end of the speech.)

"My first thought is that on looking at the December number of our JOURNAL I find a very happy representation of Toc H as a Christmas Tree, with its candles and branches and roots spreading out all over the country. The image I have of Toc H in my mind is that of a green tree. A living, growing tree means youth, and trees must be tended as youth must be served. But we of Toc H would sooner say that *youth must serve*. (Cheers.)

"I think that in remembering our elder brothers we represent the eternal, immemorial principle that only by helping the youth of the nation can the nation itself grow better and stronger, and in our case we remember—and this is an old quotation—that we make no objection against any. Notwithstanding all that they have done before they came hither, they are in no wise cast out. (Cheers.)

"Those lives which were cut off in the Great War in the incomplete flowering of their existence call on us to plant trees in their memory, and this we are trying to do and are doing in what I might call the nursery system of Toc H. (Cheers.) This year three new Houses have been started in South London alone—this afternoon I had the privilege of opening 'The Brothers' House'—and there are new groups and branches developing over this island, and on similar lines, though not in the same way, in the Empire Overseas and also abroad.

"Only a couple of months ago I saw our members at Winnipeg and Toronto, where they are going strong, and next year I hope to visit the Buenos Aires branch and to bring back their greetings for next year's festival. (Cheers.) You all know very well by this time that I am going to start travelling again next year. (Cheers and laughter.) But it seems that I am not the only one—(laughter)—because Tubby—I do not think I need give him a second name—(laughter)—and Pat Leonard are going to Australasia. Our fellow-member, Lord Forster, the Governor-General, has asked them out, and they are going to try and rally, and will succeed, the Anzacs into the fold of Toc H. We all know that they will do it very well, for you could not find two better men, and our very best wishes go with them. (Cheers.) It is the nurseries of the new young branches of Toc H that count so much in the lives of those who, although they live very far away, belong, as we do, to the British Empire. (Cheers.)

"We were very glad and honoured that the Lord Mayor should have come to our service this evening. (Cheers.) He again renewed his invitation to the Guildhall, but I had to refuse because we have become such a very big family, and when I told him that, I added, 'and a very good thing, too.' But I did not mean that it was a good thing that we were not going to the Guildhall, because we were very grateful for the invitation, particularly as we might want to go another day. (Laughter.)

"Another distinguished man whom we are glad to see here to-night is Bishop Brent, from the State of New York. (Cheers.) It is a fine thing that such an eminent American should be present on our festival evening and get to know something about our movement, and he may take some ideas back with him. (Laughter.) He is sailing to-morrow, and we wish him a smooth journey and a happy Christmas. (Cheers.)

"One word more. We want to thank the Chairman of the Central Executive Alexander Paterson, for the splendid lead he has given us. Although he is relinquishing his position he will always live up to the true life of Toc H. (Cheers.) I thank you very much indeed for the kind way you have put up with me to-night, and although I have said it before, you know it is true, that it really is a very great pleasure to me to be with you this evening. Our spirit of Toc H is always symbolised by the lamps we have lit to-night. Let us try to hand them on untarnished." (Loud cheers, and the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow.")

THE PRESENTATION OF CROSSES.

After ten minutes' interval, much needed by the cramped audience, for "General Post," the second half of the programme came on. It offered the sharpest contrasts, opening with the most frivolous half hour of the evening and ending with the most solemn. The activities of the "Tic-Tocs" Concert Party constantly receive mention in the JOURNAL, and the Birthday Party seemed to offer an unique chance to let its members be seen in the flesh by Toc H as a whole. It is certain that everyone enjoyed the excellent show they put on and it is to be hoped that they also saw what an instrument of true Toc H work this party has forged to serve both those who need cheer and colour in hard places, and the causes which need money. For the Tic-Tocs have already given much in a gay spirit.

Then the violins "built a bridge" again to carry us over to the final and most moving ceremony—the entrusting of crosses from the graves of Unknown Soldiers to the keeping of the chapels of Toc H. The Prince, who was chairing the meeting with a charming spontaneity, rose and said: "The War Graves Commission, who have given these Crosses, would like you to know that each of these wooden crosses has been replaced by a permanent headstone, bearing no name, but just these words, 'Known unto God.' We have here, to-night, Field Marshal Lord Plumer, who needs no introduction, for there are very few of us in this hall who were not in his army at one time or another during the War. I am going to ask Lord Plumer to distribute these crosses."

Lord Plumer mounted the platform and as he stood, a familiar figure in unfamiliar civilian dress, against the background of the Old House, many minds must have thought back seven years. Someone has said that the most English word in all our language is the command "Steady!"—and the Second Army Commander during the last desperate "push," traversing hither and thither the shelled roads of the salient, or holding conference on the hill at Cassel, was this English word, perfectly embodied. He spoke in a loud voice, as though he would reach the ears of that great company which stood with him then, and stand ever behind us now:—"I would ask all of those who served, as His Royal Highness and I together served, in that part of Flanders from which these crosses come, to recall, as I do, what these crosses represent. I ask all who served, and those who were too young to serve, to look upon these crosses and remember the message which the men who lay beneath them sent, and are sending now—an earnest request that those who are coming on will serve their King and their country as they did."

And then the representatives of each House in England, of Winnipeg, of Exeter, which has its own ancient church, and Bradford, with its newly-dedicated chapel, came slowly forward, mounted the platform, received a weather-beaten wooden cross from Lord Plumer's hands and an individual charge from his lips: as each man turned away he laid the cross upon his shoulder and bore it slowly across the hall and out of sight. It was a witness before us all and a reminder of an Example which needs no words.

Last act of all, singing came to the rescue; the whole audience loosed its tense feelings in the swinging words of Julia Ward Howe's *Battle Hymn*, and the old tune of *John Brown's Body*:—

"Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord . .
His truth is marching on."

A GENERAL IMPRESSION.

The great crowd of nearly two thousand broke up, with prolonged "good-nights," into the wet streets, too full, perhaps, of the evening's many emotions to make the unity out of variety

which certainly comes when we have had time for retrospect. Here—to round off this disordered report—is the retrospect of one member, a recent recruit to our ranks :—

“In looking,” he says, “over the incidents of the Family Party at the Farringdon Street Memorial Hall on December 13th, I was struck by the announcement on the bottom of the programme after Part I. Ten minutes’ interval during which the crowd will play ‘General Post.’ This seems to me to be the keynote of that evening, if not of the whole Birthday Festival this year. Take it in detail. We foregathered at the service from all over the country into three different churches—we listened in two of them to an address from an American Bishop who had to hurry from one to the other, and next day was hurrying back to America—we moved on, all of us, to that wonderful torchlight moment of praise on Tower Hill—we then scrambled to Farringdon Street, supped, as it were, in movement—and finally became part of a great audience whose moments of grave and gay caused its very ideas to be playing ‘General Post’ with themselves.

“This movement, this restlessness of life is naturally part of Toc H; one cannot serve by sitting round and waiting for an opportunity to come to one; one cannot laugh for ever, and one cannot pray for ever. There must be a ‘General Post’ of ideas, and of material; it is that which, properly controlled, constitutes happiness.

“The Patron, in his charming and intimate address to us, alluded to his own travels in which he found Toc H all over the world, and to the approaching travels of Tubby and Pat Leonard, and he made us realise by this what never-ending effects there are to the work that began in the little house in Pop.

“His speech referred to progress made and progress to come; the Lamp-lighting and the presentation of crosses took us back to events, thank God, now over. But they are inextricably linked with the future, not only in our lives and in the life of Toc H, but in the life of the world, and it is good for us to appreciate this even in the middle of a natural enjoyment of things such as a Birthday concert.

“I read somewhere a conversation between two men who were discussing the question of influence on others, and one said: ‘Tis the clever ones—the Big Brains—that rule the world.’ His friend replied: ‘Maybe, but it’s the damned fools—the Big Hearts—that make it fit to live in.’ We can all aspire to the latter class if we have a smile in our souls.”

3. *Worship and Conference*

LITTLE need be said, because so much was felt, about the first act of Sunday morning. All Hallows Church filled twice over, at eight o’clock, when the two hundred shipmates of S.S. *Baltriger* supplied the bulk of the congregation, and again at 9 o’clock. Simultaneously with the second celebration at All Hallows some fifty non-Anglican members, ministered to by George Macleod and Alex Birkmire, made their communion in Bishopsgate Chapel; the two congregations remembered each other with thankfulness.

There followed an invasion of two A.B.C. shops, where breakfast proved satisfying, protracted and at moments riotous. Pat and others, who donned cap and apron, and insisted on serving the waitresses—out of the dustbin—left the staff of one shop too hysterical to do the washing up. Various parties employed what was left of the morning in descents on the London Marks, while relays of members visited S.S. *Baltriger*, lying at Chamberlain’s Wharf, on the other side of London Bridge. It is safe to say that the 220 Toc members and the splendid captain and crew of the ship learnt much from each other during the time (“a short night and a gay one”) that the *Baltriger* was our floating billet. Good luck to all on board as she pushes back, behind the ice-breaker, into the wintry Baltic again! Let us add here that her

owners, the United Baltic Corporation, had arranged with the Birthday Committee the "rent" that was to be paid for her hire, but that since the festival they have written to say that they propose to make no charge whatever. Such an act of generosity from new friends is not unique in Toc H, but it claims our sincerest gratitude.

THE ROVER CONFERENCE

An innovation at the Birthday Festival was a short conference for Toc H Rovers, held on the Sunday morning at noon in All Hallows. It was arranged at somewhat short notice, and was primarily intended simply as a gathering together of the Rovers who were up for the Festival in order that we might get to know each other a little better, and realise, perhaps a bit more clearly than some of us have done, our fellowship in the great Rover brotherhood. From that point of view alone the gathering amply justified itself; some hundred and twenty gathered in the old church, representing troops and patrols in unsuspected as well as in known places all over the country. George Moore, the "Skipper" of Toc H Rovers, took command, and led off (from an agenda hurriedly compiled the previous evening!) with a thought-provoking speech, which can be summarised in three questions:—

1. Is it not the business of Toc H Rovers to make their contribution to the Scout Movement definitely Christian and to do their job in and with a definite Christian aim and spirit?
2. Is it not time that some attempt was made to organise the Toc H Rovers in some way that will make possible more effective intercommunication and co-operation?
3. Is a Toc H Rover troop simply a training ground for scouters and instructors, or is there room in it for the man who is a Rover for Rovering's sake?

A very interesting and fruitful discussion followed. The first question revealed great differences of outlook and opinion, but ultimately it seemed to be generally agreed that since Toc H itself is avowedly and definitely Christian (a point that was settled at the Council meeting last April) the Rovers must do their job and make their contribution from the same standpoint and in the same spirit.

The answer to the second question was an emphatic and unanimous "Yes," and Alex Birkmire was requested to take on the job of some-sort-of-unofficial-Commissioner-Secretary, to regard himself as a connecting link and to go into ways and means of organisation.*

On the third point the general agreement appeared to be that the aim of Toc H Rovers should be, as Guy Ewing put it at the afternoon conference, to "breed a race of Scout-masters," but there were some who felt that we ought not to exclude the man who, while having no vocation as a Scouter, could and did find expression in and through Rovering.

A difficult and much-debated point was then raised by Pat Leonard: as to whether men who were not members of Toc H could become Toc H Rovers. A very keen discussion followed and there was very great divergence of opinion. Some troops admit non-members, while others refuse to do so. Time being limited, the question was left over to be dealt with on some future occasion after consultation with Toc H Headquarters.†

Everyone left the church feeling that the conference, even if it had not arrived at any very definite decisions, had been extraordinarily worth while; we had met each other and got to know each other better, we had been made to think pretty hard about why we exist, and what we are out for, and we all felt that such a gathering must have its place in future Birthday Festivals.

* The first essential is an accurate register of all Toc H Rover troops or patrols, in order that a start may be made in linking them more closely together. Will all Scouters or Rover Mates who are running such please send particulars as soon as possible to Alex Birkmire at Headquarters?

† NOTE BY P. W. M.—Some of the issues arising out of this conference will be considered by the Central Executive.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

At 2 o'clock large numbers of members concentrated on King George's Hall at the Central Y.M.C.A. in Tottenham Court Road. This proved to be an excellent place for the purpose of our conference, and Toc H is most grateful to the Y.M.C.A. for the loan of it. The floor was full (even to the gangway—when Tubby came in late and sat in the middle of it) and there were a number of members and L. W. H. in the gallery. Col. REGGIE MAY took the chair, and in his opening speech witnessed to his own belief in Toc H (which, after all, he has known since *before* it opened its doors in Pop.) and to what he himself had found through it. Those who listened, much moved, to him know that his words were too intimate to be reported. There followed three addresses, the subjects of which had been previously announced:—LES ABDY (Sheffield) on *The Job of the Jobmaster*, GUY EWING (Kent County Council) on *Toc H and the Countryside*, and Padre HUTCHINSON on *Tackling the Boy*. Each of these was succeeded by twenty minutes' lively discussion. The whole proceedings were too valuable for mere summary, and will appear, almost verbatim, in the three next numbers of the JOURNAL in the series on "*Jobmastery*." It was, by general agreement, a good conference, though the issues raised really demanded far more time than the Birthday programme allows. Nothing in it was more striking than the insistence, variously expressed by speaker after speaker, on the spiritual basis of our fellowship with one another and service to others. The conference based itself, instinctively, on the "Main Resolution" of Toc H.

4. Local Festival Celebrations

WHEN the Birthday Committee decided that the central Festival in London should be held during the week-end nearest to December 15, they also suggested that the Branches and groups should keep the actual Birthday of Toc H with a party of their own. This was done by a good many. Among local celebrations—of which we have news—are the following:—At BIRMINGHAM the Branch Lamp was lighted alongside the School Lamps of Bromsgrove and Solihull. "Wouldn't it be rather a good idea to make this lighting of School Lamps by their own boys, side by side with the Lamp of a neighbouring city Branch, a general custom? Headmasters might find it a practical way of keeping the Birthday." BRISTOL took time by the forelock on December 10. The evening began with a short service in the club room of Mark IX at 6.30, taken by Padres Hawkins, Spurway of Taunton and White of Bath, followed by supper and adjournment to St. Paul's Room for a concert. Bath rolled up in force, and for the first time the Bristol L. W. H., led by Lady Baron, was entertained and helped, with music, to entertain. Tubby wired greetings. The new Lamp was met at the station at BROMLEY by Councillor Harris and members on its arrival from London on December 13. They escorted it to St. Mark's Church, where it was lighted about midnight. (The Lamp and the Branch banner will be kept, turn and turn about, in St. Mark's and the Congregational Church, being moved every month—so as to emphasize the interdenominational membership of Toc H). BUENOS AIRES cabled good wishes to the gathering in London, and promised to join us in a simultaneous party of their own. EXETER (like Bristol, for the first time in their history) invited Toc Emmas, who retaliated by the pleasing ceremony of presenting formally to the Branch the beautiful banner they had made. Before the supper-party a service was held in the Branch Chapel at which the Unknown Soldier's Cross, received on the previous Saturday, was deposited and dedicated by the padre. COVENTRY, after having sent nearly fifty per cent. of their members to London, held their own celebration on Monday "in a local café with an obliging proprietor. A very jovial evening concluded, officially, at midnight." DEWSBURY held a party at Day's Café, at which the Branch president entertained

the M.P., ex-M.P., Deputy Mayor and Medical Officer of Health. "The evening augured well for the group, for it was promised good support." GATESHEAD met at the Bensham Grove Settlement. "Old Bill," a foundation member, lit the new Lamp, and the first new member was initiated and christened "Chips." HALIFAX's party went "with great gusto. Before it they re-dedicated the Branch to service. Gilbert Williams once more gladdened their hearts with his company." LEICESTER collected a fair crowd on the 15th. "Those who were up in London came back too full for words (!), and those who had the London Festival second-hand were a little disappointed." LEWISHAM lit their new Lamp on December 19, and with it initiated four new members. Padre Ackroyd was in the chair, supported by Padre Noel Mellish, V.C., and a big crowd. Harry Ellison, from H.Q., "told them off thoroughly. It was all real good for getting a move on." MARK III. asked every member to bring a guest, and produced a memorable gathering, which two of the "Tic-Toes" and a dozen Branch members helped to entertain. MANCHESTER secured Tubby for the evening. A service was held in St. Ann's Church, lent by Canon Dorrity; the whole floor was filled with members—some from Deeside, Liverpool and Windermere—and Padre Hutch talked. Afterwards Alderman Fred West, the Toc H Lord Mayor, entertained the members at the Y.M.C.A. Café with food, fatherly counsel and funny stories. Many members (including Tubby, Pat and the "aged" from Stockport) did turns. NORWICH held their first meeting as a Branch on December 15. Captain Colman, donor of their new Lamp, unhappily couldn't come, but they had Quentin Gurney (an early friend on 2nd Corps staff to the Old House in Pop.). Padre Blackman gave a most inspiring talk, and they ended with a sing-song. A special Birthday communion service was held in St. Margaret's Church on December 21. OXFORD held a combined Birthday and Christmas Party on December 18—as did READING and ROTHERHAM. At Oxford "Peggy" gave a fine talk after supper on jobs, there was a flashlight photo, many of the old songs, and "midnight by Great Tom still found members recouping their tissues round a coffee-stall." Sheffield, Cheltenham, London, Maidenhead and Australia were represented. The ten PORTSMOUTH delegates "came back from London full of enthusiasm, and gave an account of their doings. They were unanimous in their opinion that this year's Festival was the best yet." SOUTHAMPTON's party was not only successful, but "really quite an impressive show." The SOUTH SHIELDS delegates "returned very happy from the Birthday Party, being loud in their praise of an uplifting conference." On December 21 their new Lamp was dedicated in the parish church of St. Hilda by Padre Evans to the memory of Arthur Bridge. SPETISBURY-CUM-CHARLTON, youngest of Groups, had its party and "the black and amber cake was shared among the old folks" of the villages. TUNBRIDGE WELLS met for supper at the Carlton Café, with G. T. Langridge, the president, in the chair. The delegates to London gave a glowing report, notable among the speakers being Councillor Berwick, Branch chairman. The secretary, in reviewing the year, announced a 100 per cent. increase in membership. There was not only merry-making, but some really serious talking during the evening. WEST KENT (The First Countrymen's Branch) met in St. George's Hall, Wrotham, to light their new Lamp. "The occasion marked the first authentic stage of a very interesting experiment—an attempt to naturalise the ideals of Toc H among a farming community." WIMBORNE observed *Light* with its new Lamp (the gift of the members), for the first time on December 29. Tubby went over from his home in the New Forest to light it.

THE BELFAST LAMP-LIGHTING.

Among local celebrations the return of the "Three Brothers' Lamp" to Belfast deserves special mention. For this was something much more than a Branch event, it had a civic, indeed, in a sense, a national, significance. Toc H was unknown (except to Pat Armour)

in Ireland until the first days of March, 1924, when an emissary from H.Q. was pushed through an exceedingly crowded five days' programme in Belfast. The Group then founded, took hold, worked solidly—in the Ulster way—and was promoted to be a Branch by the Executive. Four members (see p. 8) came over to the Birthday Festival and took the Lamp back. The Lord Mayor offered to give it a civic reception, and preparations were most carefully made. There were, indeed, three rehearsals beforehand. On the night of December 18 an audience of 1,100 people crowded the City Hall. It included members of the government of Northern Ireland, the Lord Lieutenant of the city, the High Sheriff, the Moderator of the Assembly and members of the Corporation, representatives of eleven ex-service organisations and a squad of disabled soldiers. Youth was there in the detachments of Scouts, Boys' Brigade, C.L.B., and Sea Cadets—each of which bodies contributed to the Guard of Honour. There were Girl Guides, schoolboys, Boys' and Girls' Auxiliary workers, and a host more. The band of the Lincolnshires played and a special choir led the singing of *O God, our Help in ages past*. The central ceremony was the first lighting in Ireland of the Lamp by the Lord Mayor, followed by the dignified and beautiful ceremony of *Grand Light*, in which all the members of the Branch marched round the platform with lifted tapers. Beadles headed the Lord Mayor's procession, and the City Chamberlain in his robes, presented the Lamp party. There were three speakers—the Lord Mayor, Padre Paton (Belfast Branch) and Alex Birkmire, who had been sent over from H.Q. The rector of St. James's Church prayed. The Patron sent a message of congratulation, and the whole ceremony was so admirably broadcasted that all through the province people could follow as clearly as if they had been present. The proceedings ended to the moment, for organisation throughout had been like clockwork—thanks to the personal work beforehand of the City Chamberlain and other officials, and the keenness of members of the Branch. Those who know Pat Armour will realise where much of the kindling enthusiasm came from. And the fact that the Belfast Lamp is dedicated to the three famous footballer sons of Mr. Hewitt, well-known in Ulster, gripped people's imagination. One man who listened in by chance that night, without knowing the very word Toc H, was so moved by the message of unselfishness that he set out first thing next morning to our office to make inquiries. Altogether it was a notable meeting. It was followed up by Alex Birkmire, who conducted a Branch meeting (broken up early owing to the zeal of members for packing parcels for the Lord Mayor's "Christmas gifts"), and who preached on Sunday morning in a Church of Ireland church (on "Faith without works is dead") and in the evening in a crowded Presbyterian Church on the meaning of Toc H. Both addresses were admirable.

* * * *A little supplement of Birthday pictures will be found at the end of this number.*

“ A. P.”

“ **L**ATEST tips from A. P.” implies to the Londoner, who buys the *Star* as he hurries out to lunch, something unreliable about horses at Alexandra Park. To many a Toc H member it calls up the picture of a branch meeting in some corner of England, the centre of which was a conspicuously large head (behind a pipe) from which came quaint and stirring oracles about the life of service—latest tips from A. P. And as our member listened, it never occurred to him to question their reliability, for every word stood, daily tested upon the experience of a life full of service. The *JOURNAL* reported, very abruptly, last month, that Alec had found himself compelled to surrender the Chairmanship of the Toc H Central Executive. It is fitting, at this moment, that his portrait should form the frontispiece of Volume III, not merely *in memoriam* of his service to us for two years, but to remind us all that he

still remains at the heart of Toc H work, a member on the active list—if ever there was one.

It is hard in this note to play the part of impersonal biographer. To record that Alec was born in Cheshire (very nearly a Manchester man), that he went to school in Bowdon, to Oxford, the Irish Office, the Borstal Association, the War, the Ministry of Labour, the Prison Commission, is the sort of thing *Who's Who* tells you—but it leaves out all the real facts. Let Bowdon College tell you why they chose this particular "old boy" to unveil their war memorial. At Oxford he played hockey for the Varsity, but didn't get his Blue, was an officer of the Union, but never President, read "Greats" but missed a First. So don't search the academic records, but just the lives of a whole generation of Oxford men which have touched his and been changed. And so he came to London—to open that brilliant political career for which those who knew had always booked him? (You know Alec's creed about careers if you grasped his picture of young "Jibbs" in the October JOURNAL.) True, he earned his living in Whitehall, but he *lived* in Bermondsey. He would set off in the morning in a black coat (made for someone else, and a combination of paper-clip with a square of postcard made a wonderful collar-stud, when shirts were a bit frayed at the back), and come home to flannel bags for the real life at night. Warden of the old Mission? No, for a year or two quaintly styled "The Junior Resident," but mostly just "A. P." There are a hundred pictures of him which come crowding up out of those twenty years in a corner of South London—club nights and camp days, and crises at committees. And there is that little, bare room at the top of a huge, tragic-comic block of tenements—the wide-open window looking over the tiles and lights of Bermondsey, the bath (unique under a roof which sheltered 1,400 people) sharing the floor with a bed, over which were pinned the photographs of many well-remembered faces—not all left to-day. And for a year there was pinned among them a list of 40 names under the heading *Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven*—the names of the rough crowd of little boys to whom he taught (unpaid) much more than mere spelling in an elementary school. And there was a night up there under the roof, when he read aloud to an audience of one, the first written chapters of *Across the Bridges*, a book which by its courage, its humour and its tenderness, was to open eyes and hearts as few others in its time. Again lives were being changed, the lives of men, women and children by the untiring Hand which finds, here and there, such a man to be Its instrument. In Bermondsey it was (and is) a personal touch night by night, and in Whitehall the same touch has worked more widely, if less personally, outwards. Only a very few know how much the "Children's Charter"—the Act of 1908—owes to Alec, and in 1925 the "spirits in prison" cannot realise from whose mind come much of their best hopes of deliverance from themselves. In the sovereign art of "keeping oneself before the public" Alec is a ludicrous failure, but the job of work never ceases.

Then came the War, and the queer figure of a private marched away in the ranks of the 22nd London. (*We are the Bermondsey B'boys*, used to be the marching song long before 1914.) Many are dead, colonel and private, who could tell you what A. P., as private, sergeant or officer, meant in the old battalion, in action and in rest, in the unspeakably worst as in the most cheery days. Many are still about the Bermondsey streets, but they won't often tell you much. "Gaw", 'e was a lad!" they'll say, and their faces light up. The War left its mark, as it has done somehow on most of the old lot; an obstinate "bit of stuff" in the back has altered the pace for A. P. But the pace is still so hot that few men could stand it.

But enough indiscretions have been committed on this page. Let us say no more, lest they become more personal still. At every turn of the best part of life, in the grand moments of light and darkness—there has been A. P. Many another man, thinking back, can say as much—but they too, would lay down the pen because they cannot put their thankfulness in words.

B. B.

FOUR DEDICATIONS

1.—THE BROTHERS' HOUSE (MARK XIII).

SOME account of the gallant brothers, Dick and Gus Dilbéroglue, to whose memory the House stands, has already been given in the JOURNAL (December, 1923, p. 469). The gift was announced at the Guildhall at the Birthday Festival of that year, but the House was not formally dedicated until December 13, 1924, the afternoon of the following Festival. The House itself was made possible by real self-sacrifice—we need not go into details, but we must rejoice in the spirit of it—on the part of the mother of the two brothers; many other donors have enriched it, with proud memories as well as with material things, in its memorial rooms. The Prince of Wales himself opened it. He was received by Tubby and Peter Monie, met Mrs. Dilbéroglue, the Bishop and the Mayor of Southwark, and the members of the Branch Committee in the hall, and was shown over the House by "Brock," the Warden, and "Hutch," the Padre. Outside the door of each room he was greeted by the donor, and inside by the occupants of it. He visited the beautiful chapel and then descended to the kitchen to talk with the domestic staff. Then, in the crowded lounge, he conducted the ceremony of *Light*. The Bishop of Southwark (Tubby's old "chief" from Portsea) dedicated the House with prayer, Tubby read the Branch Petition for a Lamp, and the Prince declared the House open with the words: "I have much pleasure in declaring open this house, which is to be named 'The Brothers' House.' On behalf of Toc H I thank all those very sincerely who have made this possible." Members of the Branch not living in the House were then presented to the Patron, who chatted with various people, signed the visitors' book and went away to the Thanksgiving at All Hallows, whither the crowd followed. It had been a short and busy half hour, but meant much.

2.—MARK XIV.

NOVEMBER 26, 1924, will be for ever writ large in the annals of the Salford Branch, for on that day, having triumphantly survived the experimental first year, Mark XIV was solemnly dedicated "to the Honour of God and the training of His sons," by the Lord Bishop of Manchester. Headed by Pat, the Bishop, Tubby and Leigh Groves, a procession of hostellers slowly wended its way from the entrance hall to the "R. M. Groves" clubroom while the 24th Psalm was chanted. In the common room Tubby lit the Lamp; then during the singing of *Benedicite* the procession continued its way to the dining room and in turn to the kitchen, the "W. G. Terry" quiet room, and the upper landings, pausing awhile in each place for prayer. Finally the cellar chapel was reached, where standing before the Altar, with its beautiful frontal (the work of a member of the L. W. H.), the Bishop pronounced the solemn dedication—which this room, below, yet above all others in the house, becomes the living heart whence the whole spirit of the Brotherhood flows forth to conquer. Afterwards the Bishop addressed the company from the staircase. After supper, splendidly done by "Jack" and "Ma," a sing-song was held in the main hall, and when Leigh Groves, as chairman, had read a sheaf of fraternal greetings, and the musical proceedings had inevitably opened with Tubby's rendering of "Rogerum," we were treated to the inestimable privilege of the Bishop himself occupying the "platform" (a rather decrepit chair) and singing a rival version of Dives and Lazarus. In response to uproarious encores this very human father in God gave us a sixty-miles-an-hour-recital of the dream perils of a food-hog. Then David Boyle, having pleaded his reluctance to complete the programme by a dance, gave us some of his impressions of Toc H, that certainly made a great impression on us who heard him. But it was, as always, Tubby who gave us, in his inimitable way, the enduring thought on fellowship and service which ended a memorable evening.

C. P. H.

THE pleasant House facing Woolwich Common has already got an atmosphere of its own among the Marks of Toc H, for its special bit of work with the huge family of sea-going boys revolves round the personality of Padre Hutch. It was crowded out with the curious and the friendly during the afternoon and evening of Saturday, December 6, when it was officially opened by Sir Aston Blake, Master of Trinity House. Mr. E. G. Dixon (donor of the Woolwich Lamp) presided. He was supported by the Mayor and Mayoress of Woolwich, the Rector and many local clergy, and boys from the training ship *Exmouth* supplied a jolly Guard of Honour. Mark XV then kept "open house" for the rest of the afternoon and evening, during which time the members made things merry with a sing-song.

The Bishop of Woolwich, unable to be present on Saturday, came and dedicated the House on Monday, before going on to Woolwich Town Hall, where a very large and enthusiastic audience gathered to hear from Tubby the story of Toc H, which had just been established in their midst. General the Earl of Cavan took the chair, supported by Rear-Admiral Thesiger, the Bishop of Woolwich, the Mayor and Mayoress, the Commandments of the Garrison and of the Royal Military Academy, and others. Lord Cavan gave a delightful opening to the meeting—a personal confession rather than a chairman's speech. He said that at the beginning of things he was opposed to Toc H becoming an institution of the times of peace. He did not think it would "catch on," and he had the feeling that Toc H had been so wonderful during the war that it would be almost a pity to risk the slightest failure after it. He had come there that night to make ample atonement for his wrong-headedness, for it had been proved to him that he was wrong-headed since he had seen what work Toc H was doing. He went on to speak of a visit of his own to the Upper Room at Poperinghe, and how, in the quietness of that place the anxieties of a critical moment of the war dropped away from him. (Readers of *The Tales of Talbot House* will remember a reference to this in his foreword to the book). Tubby unrolled the humour and the vision of Toc H to the audience in a very characteristic speech, and at the end the Mayor proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting welcomes the formation of a branch of Toc H in Woolwich, believing that the spirit of sacrifice and service that called Toc H into being, and which still animates it, will help to solve the many problems which confront us." The ceremony of *Light* was observed, trumpeters of the Royal Artillery sounded *Last Post* and *Reveille*, and the National Anthem brought a fine meeting to an end.

4.—BRADFORD HEADQUARTERS.

BRADFORD, after much searching, found the right headquarters last October in Hallfield Chambers, Manningham Lane, and they were formally opened on December 6. They consist of a club room, a quiet room and a little chapel—this last the anonymous gift of a Bradford lady. Tubby was given a civic reception in Bradford Town Hall at tea-time. The Lord Mayor (Mr. J. H. Palin, M.P.) acknowledged his own debt of gratitude to the Old House in Poperinghe which he had found a haven of rest in 1917. It was something in those days to get a chair with a back to it, and in Talbot House they got real religion, too. There had been both liberty and discipline there, and it was necessary that the same spirit should be translated into civil life. Tubby, in reply, spoke of the importance of the relationship that should exist between a great ideal like Toc H and a great city like Bradford. He did not want anyone to think of the new headquarters as anything but a prelude to bigger things, to the establishment of a complete House for the service of their fellow-citizens, and the younger generation of Bradford. The whole party then moved round to the new premises in Hallfield Chambers,

where, in asking the Lord Mayor to declare the rooms open, Mr. John Emsley (president of the Branch) made a deeply moving speech. He himself had suffered by the war, and it had made him determined, if he could do any good in the world, to do it. He was just trying to carry out what his son, before his death in action, had asked him to do—to help “those boys” to live a better and a happier life. The war had its compensations, and one of them was a meeting like the present one. The Lord Mayor then opened the rooms, Mr. Emsley briefly thanked him, seconded by Mr. Charles Ogden (vice-president of the Branch), who said that the keynote of all the speeches had been “Break down the barriers.” At 9 o’clock the Lamp was lit.

Early on Sunday morning Tubby dedicated “for the service of Toc H, in memory of Edward Billson and to the glory of Almighty God, this communion-table, with the furnishings and ornaments thereof.” And for the first time in their new chapel members received the Communion. Tubby celebrated, assisted by Padre Keith Jones (of the Branch). Tubby also preached in the morning at the Cathedral. Such a crowd afterwards saw him to the station that a porter was moved to ask if he was a bridegroom or a footballer.

MULTUM IN PARVO

✓ AN IMPORTANT NOTICE concerning the “World-tour.” Tubby and Pat start from Southampton on February 5. On *Wednesday, February 4*, all the Toc H Padres meet at Southampton, and Mark V extends a welcome to *all* members who can come to see the pilgrim fathers sail. Note it in your Diary: it ought to be a memorable night. (The complete itinerary of the tour and other matters about it will be published in a coming number of the JOURNAL.)

✓ It is a great pleasure to welcome two more PADRES to the whole-time staff of Toc H. The first is TOM GARAWAY (until now Hon. Padre of the Walkley Group, Sheffield), who goes in the middle of January to Mark X, Hull. The second is T. C. C. BROCHNER (“Buttress I” of Sheffield Cathedral) who comes at the end of the month to Mark VII, as padre to the N. and N.E. London area.

✓ The steady growth in London has made some further appointments necessary. R. R. CALKIN, adjutant of the London C.L.B., has now joined H.Q. staff as full-time Jobmaster, or rather a sort of “Job-overseer,” for the two dozen branches and groups in the London Federation. Best wishes to him in a very big job! GEORGE MOORE, who as a curate at All Hallows has meant so much to Scouts and Rovers in Toc H, has now officially become an Hon. Toc H Padre. And Padre MACFARLAND (New Zealand “Mac”) has been moved from Hull—where Garaway takes over—to London.

✓ Halifax is saying regretful good-bye to D. H. KITCHIN who has been living at Mark XII and helping the House and Branch through a difficult time. He now leaves H.Q. staff—with thanks and best wishes from us all.

✓ Heartiest congratulations to the LONDON SOCCER TEAM on winning the second round of the A.F.A. Senior Cup on December 13. They beat the Bank of England 3-0, and (as the Patron said in announcing the victory at the Memorial Hall) “they wish they had the money.” Members can help them to raise some of it by coming to see the Drama League on February 21: the proceeds are to be divided between the players of football and of Oscar Wilde (see page 27).

☞ This is to remind Toc H padres (Branch, Group or otherwise) of the PADRES' FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE to be held at the R.M.C., Camberley, from January 19 to 22. The programme, in brief, is this:—January 19, 5 p.m. Barkis tells the story of Toc H; 8 p.m. Grantibus explains the present situation; January 20, morning, two Toc H padres on the padres' work, and, afternoon, two Toc H laymen on the laymen's point of view; January 21, morning session given to Fellowship business, and afternoon to Padre Harry Ellison on "Some misunderstandings of Toc H." Canon E. S. Woods will give the addresses in chapel. Padres should write at once to the Rev. H. F. Fleming, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, S.W.3, and those who come should bring (among other ornaments) their own towel and soap.

☞ MARK II (CANADA) cables "Heartiest greetings and good wishes for 1925." "The same to you!" say all of us. (For Branch news see p. 22.) No. 2 of the Toronto *Toc H Journal* is to hand. The orange of its pages is slightly less glowing, but its enthusiasm is more so. Much of it is devoted to a most lively historical sketch of Toc H in Canada and of Mark II in particular, illustrated with caricature-portraits of Padre Jack Gibson and other famous men. The tale opens with the "Byng Boys" at Vimy, goes on to Tubby's visit in 1922 "in a great hurry, with two large suit-cases filled to capacity with clerical garb and Toc H literature mingled with prophetic profusion," takes in Cawley and Burgon Bickersteth, and deals faithfully with "Padre Jack" who is "at a conscious disadvantage when among those splendid men who by long and patient study of the fathers and grandfathers and grandmothers have mastered the popular and lucrative art of preaching the Gospel without spreading it." It tells how Padre Jack bought the House and how the Group hesitated to embark on it. And then "a real, genuine, honest-to-goodness soul named Hurst from London, England, blew into Toronto, and finding the door still closed entered in at the window and in the name of Toc H possessed the new land."

☞ From time to time Toc H is asked to recommend men for special jobs. Here are three recent ones for one or other of which some member may feel himself fitted. If so will he straightway apply, with testimonials, to the General Secretary at H.Q.

1. Manager wanted for a CHILD EMIGRANT SETTLEMENT in Western Australia. Salary £400, with house and garden.

2. Secretary (ex-officer with knowledge of French) wanted for a CLUB ON THE CONTINENT. Salary 1,000 Francs per month, with quarters.

3. An assistant agent needed by the DISCHARGED PRISONERS' AID SOCIETY for a London prison. Salary £140, suitable for a pensioner, who should be about 45.

☞ Does everyone realise that Tubby's inimitable *Tales of Talbot House*, long out of print, is now available in a new and cheaper (but *not* nastier) edition? If you haven't read it, don't delay a moment—get it; if you have read it, but don't possess it—get it; if you possess it—get it and pass it on. For details see the list on the inside of the back cover of this number.

NEWS FROM BRANCHES AND GROUPS

This month let us give the place of honour to SOUTH AMERICA, and group together certain pieces of news, thus:—

BUENOS AIRES.—This year has been very largely an experimental one for us, getting hold of the right men as members, looking around for work and imbibing and pondering hard over all Toc H literature and the ideals behind it. We do indeed have our difficulties out here, a young country without traditions, but with a machine-made, false idea of patriotism, which alas! many children of British parentage, but born in the country, acquire, belittling and sneering at the Homeland and all it stands for. The great ideal to aim for out here is *wealth*.

It is a country with a low standard of morality in every way ; there is something about it or its climate that appears to make everything deteriorate so quickly unless there is a constant supply of new blood from Europe. People, animals, plants—it is the same with them all. The easy-going policy of “*manana*” (to-morrow) prevails, and young fellows from home quickly absorb the spirit of the country and find it too much bother to do anything but go in for sport and pleasure seeking, so that the work of secretaryships and what not falls upon the shoulders of a few, and these are sometimes almost overburdened with work. However we get the real essentials attended to as quickly as possible and then turn to the less important matters as opportunity presents itself. We are building slowly but steadily and surely, for so many movements of all kinds are and have been started out here, beginning with a rush and a tremendous “*splash*,” only to dry up when the first enthusiasm has passed away ; we must avoid that taking place over Toc H and so we are going very cautiously. M. P.

That is Malcolm Pulbrook's Branch letter, but it does not seem to be the whole story. Witness the three items which follow :—

1. A letter from W. LAKE LAKE to Tubby, dated November 19, 1924 : “ Have just presided at the first Toc H meeting in MENDOZA. [400 miles, as the crow flies, up country from B.A.] Eight men have joined up and a group is to be formed at once, tributary to B. A. branch. They are seven ex-Service men and one reject. All most enthusiastic. Quite a decent-sized colony here, mostly railwaymen. I have been here three days and return to B. A. to-morrow. Also present were two fine-looking youngsters just out from New Zealand, and on their way to England, via the States. Don't know when they will reach London, but I gave them a card to Monie and hope he'll rope them in, as they are ‘good-lookers.’ Best of all the very best wishes for 1924 Birthday Party, wish I could be there—in the heart of loyalty—so do all our chaps in Branch 50. But we shall be celebrating at the same time. *Adios y que Dio ti guarde!*” P.S.—These fellows up here say a limit is already placed on their grouphood, that they will soon be a branch. Good luck to 'em !”

2. Let us add a note on an incident of which Malcolm Pulbrook has probably not yet heard and which he would be too modest to report. One morning some weeks ago the office boy at H.Q. announced the “implosion” of a padre whose name and business were unknown to any of us. With what cheerfulness we might we resigned ourselves to having to answer the old question “What is Toc H ?” But he knew the answer already, and made us all sit up as he spoke of what he had found on the other side of the world. He had been a visitor at a meeting of the B.A. Branch : “If all Toc H meetings are run with that spirit it must be a marvellous show” he said. And then he told us of the big job to which he himself had just been appointed at Rio de Janiero—and asked if he might try to start Toc H there. He has since sailed for South America again—so look out for RIO !

3. Then another shot—this time a very long one—out of the South American locker. Some weeks ago a steamer put into the nearest port (which happened to be Avonmouth) in order to land a sick seaman, who was moved, between life and death, to hospital in Bristol. For some days the surgeons did not dare to operate on his smashed foot, for there was more than that in his desperate condition. On the eve of the operation they asked if there was anyone to whom he would wish to send what might be a last message. His cheery answer, they say, was : “Only two people care about me—one is myself and the other is the little girl in this hospital who has been sitting up at night to nurse me.” And that's where he went wrong—for he had left out of count the family of Mark IX. For it somehow came out that he had touched

Toc H in South America before he shipped for the Old World, and had not forgotten it. He came through his operation and was transferred, crutches and all, to Mark IX, where he still remains. His broken foot, so he gave out, was the legacy of one of the commonplace accidents of seafaring, but when the award of a Royal Humane Society medal was notified, his fellow hostellers called for some further explanation. The scene is the empty tank steamer *Appalachee*, homeward bound, in mid-Atlantic in mid-October. The ship's carpenter is overcome by fumes in the bottom of a deep tank, and one of the officers (finely named English) goes to his rescue—and to his own death. Three seamen next try, of whom one reaches the deck with the carpenter and two are overcome. Three more go down and bring up their two unconscious mates, the last of whom (in being hauled up the wrong side of a vertical iron ladder and forced through a 17-inch manhole on to the deck), has his foot crushed. He is rescued only just in time, and is landed in desperate haste at Avonmouth. And now, having crossed the world, he finds himself still in the heart of a brotherhood which is accustomed to honour brave men.

BIRMINGHAM.—After a profound silence of three months, Brum wishes to speak its little piece. With the winter season Toc H finds itself contributing something like 100 fellows to the different social organisations functioning in this city. Among the new jobs are “Jock” as scout to the blind institution in Edgbaston—a ticklish job, but don’t “Stop your tickling, Jock”! Two men regularly attending the club run by the Braille League for the Blind, and the taking over of several wards in connection with the Lord Mayor’s Distress Fund Collection. Concerts of a more or less musical character have been given to St. Dunstan’s men and the Braille League and convalescent ex-Service men. The Birthday Party took 25 Brummagen lads to London, and all wish to testify to the wealth of Toc H spirit shown by all with whom they came in contact and the London members in particular. At the moment we are fully occupied in trying to get a new Mark VI; other Branches who have gone through it will sympathise. When the new House does emerge, it will make other Marks rub their eyes. The Branch welcomes many new members, and especially records its thanks to the “Colonel” and Howard Heaton for the work put in over the new premises. I don’t quite know why I am writing these notes, but here’s to 1925 and all the Brethren. OOGAF.

CANADA : MARK II.—Padre Cawley arrived from Winnipeg on November 25 and stayed until December 6. He has been a wonderful help to all of us, and done all in his power for the furtherance of the movement in Toronto. We have one room endowed, another promised, and one or two more expected in the near future. Mrs. Street (mother of Edmund Street) very kindly sent us a cheque towards the funds of the House; the members of the Group are desirous of furnishing a room, and it is suggested, as an act of appreciation, that we endow it as the “Edmund Street” Room. Our members are actively engaged in work for boys’ clubs, for the soldiers in Christie Street Hospital and visit the Home for the Blind each week night. Some of them have done good work in the decorating of parts of the House and Chapel, for which we have been kindly given the altar and furnishings. At the second monthly meeting in the House, Mr. C. L. Burton, manager of the Robert Simpson Company, and Padre Cawley, spoke. George Hambly was in the chair. Mr. Burton gave us an interesting talk on the need for co-operation between employer and employee, and drew a good parallel between the service of a large company to the public and the work of Toc H. There was a large and enthusiastic attendance. We are all trying hard, keeping first and foremost the ideals of the movement, and feel that we shall win through. F. B. W.

COLCHESTER.—Our monthly discussion was held on December 6, when Mr. G. M. Backing (postmaster of Colchester) gave us a lecture on "The internal workings of the Post Office," a fair number being present. All members who attended the Birthday Festival had a grand time, especially the lucky ones who were guests at Mark III. We have started our carols, and we hope to make a good go of it. The Mayor's Fund of Colchester will reap the benefit of our carollers.

W. C. P.

COVENTRY.—A party for the members of our boys' club is now engaging the attentions of the committee concerned. Three of our members have become, or will do shortly, possessed of charming wives; we have wished them well. Our late jobmaster, Fairy (one of the Benedicts) retires with our best thanks. Coventry is a Branch where most of the members are doing individual jobs, but we are making efforts to co-ordinate their activities, and our new jobmaster, Merry, a man of mark, is going to have a busy month or two, though he will be backed in his endeavours by all the hirelings. Sawbones paid us a visit earlier in the month, and we spent a golden evening. We are hoping to pay Mark XI a visit shortly, most probably on the day the Coventry fifteen visits Leicester to teach the Tigers how to play Rugger. Rear-Admiral Drury-Lowe spoke at Coventry on Peace Sunday, and at least one fellow member of Toc H was there to shake him by the hand.

DOLLY.

DEESIDE AND DISTRICT.—On December 20 Pat and his party from Manchester, Prangley and his small battalion from Liverpool, a few local friends, and a good muster of our own Branch members, gathered together in a room over the stables at the Station Hotel, Shotton, for the "warming" of this our headquarters and club room. It was a jolly time, and a repetition soon, by way of a birthday party, would be welcomed. By the time you read this news, we hope to have established our boys' club in our little place. The foundation of this club was truly laid in the successful camp we organised last August, and since then has remained stagnant owing to the shortage of building material, but now, with this, our club room to hand, this labour of love is to begin again at once. Our Editor's word is law, and must be obeyed, so we are unable to include now, a report of our treat on Christmas Day for the poor kiddies of the district.

Meetings: At the Toc H Club Room, Station Hotel, Shotton, every Monday at 7.30. FLUFF.

DERBY.—In spite of our silence in these pages, we have been pretty busy. We have had interesting talks from Mr. Cary Roe, of the Derby Deaf and Dumb Institution, and from Councillor Grant on the work of the Infirmary Saturday Fund. At Christmas we entertained fifty poor and crippled boys at our H.Q. to tea and a concert; our Father Christmas (who had trouble with his beaver) gave each a present on leaving. Our football team continues to win (ask Leicester!), our concert party threatens to improve, and we have the makings of a highly syncopated jazz band. We held a third dance, which has enabled us to put by a useful sum for further work.

DENIS G.

DEWSBURY.—*Meetings:* Thursday in the Temperance Hall. January 8 (7.30 p.m.); January 15 (8 p.m.), Padre G. Williams of Sheffield; January 22 (8 p.m.); January 29 (7.30 p.m.).

EXETER.—Three branch meetings have been held since we last found a place in the pages of the JOURNAL. At the first two of these, papers were read on the Copec Reports on "Christianity and War," and "Christianity and Politics." Both these papers were followed by really

lively discussions, extraordinarily stimulating to the Toc H spirit. The consideration of some other Copec reports will be continued during the next few months. During the past month the Boys' Club has been installed in the extensive premises recently opened by the local J. O. C. On Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings we are to share the building with the Junior Branch of the Y.M.C.A. Young and his band of workers are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts since the club was started. We understand that the generous share of the premises allotted to us, and the terms on which they were given, were largely due to the impression made on the J. O. C. by the efficiency of the club and its organisation.

Meetings: Service in St. Martin's Church at 7.15 p.m.; Supper Party in the Y.M.C.A., off High Street, at 7.45 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month; Boys' Club as above, from 7 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. in Friernhay Church. EGGIE.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.—On September 9 a most informal confab, of which no notice was issued, was held, and Hector Ross and Basil Lewis who had just joined up, were welcomed. The Hon. Sec. reported the joining of Harold Ward, the first member from Sumatra, and that at least seven others had literature with a view to considering membership. With so many new members in the offing and Toconite spreading rapidly, the confab broke up in most cheerful spirits. Besides previous activities we are coaching the non-Europeans at Hockey one afternoon each week, and teaching signalling, drill and physical jerks to the Girl Guides.

GRANTHAM.—December was a red letter month for us. We organised a Toc H Ball, our chief object being to raise the money to provide a poor old lady with an artificial limb; it was a Christmas present to her. Thirteen of our members also helped to run a bridge-drive in aid of the local Queen Victoria's Nurses' Home. Then came the Birthday Festival, which was a great joy to those of us who attended. Honour has befallen us in having our Lamp bestowed—in memory of one of our boys who had a fine influence here in his quiet way. We have had a visit from Fanthorpe ("Fanny" of Nottingham), who is now supervisor there of the homeworkers of the Royal Midland Institute for the Blind. He offered us a lot to think about—and to do. Greenacre then gave us a useful chat on "Jobmastery." The Baptist Church has appealed to us to help in arranging a concert party for New Year's Day, and we have this in hand. Looking back over the year we rejoice over the opportunities to help in many ways that have come to us. G. R. P.

HALIFAX: MARK XII.—The excitement of the Birthday is over, those who were there have an additional memory to cherish, and we all settle down to our job. On November 30 we had an excellent attendance at a church parade at our padre's church. Gilbert Williams spoke and assisted at the celebration of Holy Communion. One fly in our ointment is the sad fact that we are losing D. H. Kitchin, our *deus ex machina*, who has done fine work in the Branch and in the Mark at a critical time in our history. We owe him more than we can say, and our best wishes for the future go with him. Maurice Watts, one of ours, has taken a wife and we wish them both every happiness. Contrary to the usual rule we are not, we are glad to say, losing a good member. Congratulations to a group at Lightcliffe, which has sprung up under our guidance, but through the efforts of two public schoolboys who came to know Toc H at school. Hats off to H.Q. for this! SHEP.

HAROLD WOOD.—We made our bow to the world in general and to Harold Wood in particular at a public meeting held in the War Memorial Institute on Armistice night, at which we tried to bring together the whole of the village and specially the ex-Service men. We had a great crowd, and a happy family gathering. Great assistance came from a Gidea Park mem-

ber and from Captain Harvey of Romford. This inaugural meeting led to immediate results in connection with the Church, Chapel and P.S.A. in the village, which we made up our mind, to help alike. Prior to this they had all been suffering from the apathy of men in the place, and we have now helped to fill all three. Membership has spread through the village like wildfire, and now stands at 80 men and 40 L.W.H. Thirty-six of us went up to the Birthday Festival, and were much impressed by what we saw; we naturally hope to be in the Lamp ceremony by the time we meet again at the Festival next year. We have already had a visit from Ilford (what a jolly crowd!), and on the same evening Alex Birkmire gave us a good talking to. We deserved it, and feel all the better for it. We are arranging a Carol Service for Toc H members on December 21, a concert for the Hospital and Institute funds on January 8, and a children's tea and entertainment in February. So we have made a start of some sort.

Meetings: At the War Memorial Institute every Monday at 8 p.m.

H. M.

HARTLEPOOLS.—Toc H in the Hartlepoons is getting on A.1 now, and although our membership is not large we are tackling quite a lot of work. On December 10 we had a table at a tea given in aid of the "Missions to Seamen's" Funds; over 1,000 tickets for this tea were sold, and we fed at our table about 180 people. On December 22 we helped to run a Christmas Party for war orphans and widows of the town, and we are also collecting in aid of the Bombardment 'Thankoffering' Fund for the Hartlepoons' hospitals. This last is a big piece of work as it means a house-to-house collection throughout the town. There is also quite a lot of individual work going on—so things are looking pretty bright. The visit of Peggy Lodge and Padre Williams, not to mention Padre Davis of Gateshead, bucked things up a good deal.

F. S. S.

LEAMINGTON.—Here on November 24 Christ started another group of Toc H, so patent was it that this was due to the work of no individual; our one hope is that we may be true to this first enthusiasm. Very appropriately Lt.-General Sir J. Kerr, in whose corps permission was first granted for the opening of the Old House in Pop., was our guest of the evening. Our actual membership is three (among whom we are fortunate in having a foundation member, S. Aldridge), and our prospectives at the moment nine. Six will be admitted at our next meeting on January 12, by "Oogaf," who is coming over with some merry men of Mark VI to give us good cheer. Having made our bow, we promise not to appear again until we can show results.

A.

LEEDS.—Our chairman, Hollis, after holding office for a year, has resigned, and his successor is Capt. J. Brown, M.C., Deputy Governor, H.M. Prison, Armley. Hurley's voluntary removal to Portland is a serious loss to this Branch, but we count ourselves fortunate in getting Rev. John Duffield to succeed him as chaplain. He is Irish—'nuff said! Hurley's last appearance was at a Communion Service held at our H.Q. on Armistice Sunday, when he was assisted by Duffield. The service will long be remembered by the members who were present. On Armistice Day Toc H took its part in the civic ceremony, for Hollis placed a wreath, in the shape of the Lamp, on the memorial in City Square. In the evening members attended a most impressive service at St. James, when the ceremony of "Light" preceded a striking address from Duffield on Toc H and what it stands for. Pat Leonard was over in November and addressed a meeting of students at the University, but the real object of his visit was a special gathering to which youths who had recently left school were invited. Proceedings commenced with a reception at H.Q., after which there was an adjournment to Red House, where Cummings is now in residence and is doing such fine work. Here refreshments were served,

and after the lighting of the Lamp six new members were initiated, and then Pat held the floor. We were also fortunate enough to have a few words of cheer and encouragement from Alex Paterson as part of the evening's programme. "Ladies Night" on December 18 at Red House, was the opportunity for Miss Kitson to speak on the work at the Red House Settlement in which our members are becoming interested. Arrangements for our anniversary on January 29 are well in hand. We are looking forward to an inspiring gathering. The Deputy Lord Mayor of Leeds, the Bishop of Whitby and Padre Williams of Sheffield will be on the platform, and we hope that all Toc H branches and groups in Yorkshire will be represented. We congratulate Bradford on having such comfortable H.Q. It was a great pleasure to be in at their opening ceremony. Toc H's are never jealous of each other—otherwise! Cummings and party visited London for the Birthday celebrations, and we would like to have been represented at Manchester, but it could not be managed.

LEICESTER.—Things are going well, and we may, indeed, be in danger of becoming satisfied with the *status quo*. Meetings are well attended, there exists a spirit of good fellowship, and membership is becoming a desirable thing in itself—a real danger if it is made so cheap and demands too little personal sacrifice. "Tapps" has become Warden of Mark XI, and everyone looks for big things from him. Addresses have been given by Mr. T. Hacking on the work of rural district councils, and by Mr. E. Wilkinson on the Industrial Christian Fellowship. Discussion on these occasions is still left to too few, there ought to be more vital differences of opinion.

LEWISHAM.—On November 21 Alex Birkmire held forth at Ryan's. On December 2 we held a social for all Rovers, Scouters, Cubbers, C. L. B. and Boys' Brigade officers in the district. The Mayor of Lewisham was there and lauded Toc H. In work we are "doin' summat." A whole mob are serving with scouts and cubs, and some with the C. L. B., while some are helping with a club in Dockland, and with various other boys' work. We hope to give a show (with the excellent help of the "Tic-Tocs") to a leper-colony, and are working with Bromley and Croydon in the War Graves Pilgrimage to Flanders in May. The new Branch is going strong with Charlie Bishopp at the helm. But we mustn't blow our own tin trumpet—it's not in tune. When we look round and see the work there is to do, well——! McNAB.

LONDON: MARK I.—The subject ("Do the Anglo Saxon races devote too much time to sport") of the joint Marks' debate on December 10 provoked a very interesting and amusing discussion. This was followed up on December 17 by the joint Marks' concert, which was very efficiently arranged by Kreis.

Fixtures: January 7, General Boys' and Men's Club night; January 14, O. S. Nock on "Devon and Cornwall"; January 21, George Peverett on "Francis Thompson"; January 28, J. H. Bailey on "The L.G.O.C."; February 4, Business Meeting; February 11, Debate. J. M.

LONDON: MARK II.—One of our New Year's resolutions is "Be tolerant"—so we are entertaining members of the H.Q. staff to an informal party on January 1. December has been a bright and busy month. Besides Birthday visitors, we have had a talk from Eric Lawford of the F. M. S. Branch, and hair-raising African tales from Grantibus. Our deputy-jobmaster is stocktaking, and all members of the Branch are asked to fill in particulars of their jobs on the slips provided, *toot sweet*. E. A. C.

LONDON : MARK III.—A big, new job is being started in the New Year, in co-operation with Kennington Branch, namely, the management of the Cornwall Club, a men's club of nearly 200 members, the committee of which has requested Toc H to join them. Events of December have been a discussion, introduced by Val Bell, on "Should the school-leaving age be raised to sixteen?" and a joint meeting with St. John's Men's Guild, when Alec Paterson told us about Borstal.

Meetings : January 7, Hamilton Fyfe (Christ's Hospital); January 14, Alex Birkmire; January 21, Val Bell on "Impressions of Denmark"; January 28, Toc H Drama League (in St. John's Hall); February 11, Beresford Ingram.

LONDON : MARK XXII.—The chief event of the month has, of course, been the Birthday. Owing to our limited accommodation we could not put many visitors up, but the way people visited the House was splendid. A few came on Saturday afternoon, but on Sunday our pawnshop was full of members in streams from every branch, it seemed, in the country. Our furniture was recently materially increased by a "raid" under the leadership of H. W. Sheppard. All the London Marks took part with an outsize in cakes and gifts of pictures, and Mark II, with alleged music of concertinas and jazz drums. There is little to say about jobs. Our difficulty is not lack of opportunities but of men. The family spirit is all right. W. H. B.

Other London Didrið Fixtures : MARK VII.—January 1, R. Stewart Murray on "Palestine" (lantern); January 8, E. S. Hadley on "Railway Welfare and Safety Work"; January 15, the Archdeacon of Hampstead; January 22, joint debate with Marks I and II; January 29 Miss Brittain on "Present Conditions in Central Europe" (Ladies night); February 5, Branch guest night. BROTHERS' HOUSE.—Every Monday (first Monday in the month being a Branch meeting). CHELSEA.—Wednesdays at Padre Fleming's house (Royal Hospital) at 8.15. CROYDON.—At the Toc H Hut, Selsdon Road, South Croydon, supper 7.30, meeting 8 p.m. Every Tuesday—social night. January 2, Padre George Moore; January 16, Padre Hutchinson; February 6, T. C. Archer on "The League of Nations." EALING.—At the Hampshire House Club at 8 p.m. January 1, supper; January 14, debate with the Congregational Club; January 21, Lecture on "Russia"; January 28, games; February 4, Padre George Moore. ILFORD.—January 14, Harry Ellison on "The London Federation"; January 29, Visit to Mark II; February 13, A. J. Lewis on "Railways." ISLINGTON.—January 5, 15, 21, and 27. SIDCUP.—January 6, Reunion and sing-song at Scout H.Q., Nelson Road, 8 p.m.; January 18, Corporate Communion, All Saints, New Eltham, 8 a.m.; January 20, guest night at Scout H.Q., 8 p.m. WIMBLEDON.—Fortnightly on Fridays at Welcome Hall; January 2, S. D. Moss on "Art."

London "Shows" : DRAMA LEAGUE.—January 28, A triple bill, "The Artist," by A. A. Milne; "Freezing a Mother-in-Law," by Edgar Pemberton, and "The River of Light," by Neilson Morris, at St. John's Hall, opposite Mark III (admission free by ticket obtainable from Mark III Branch secretary); February 2, The same at All Saints' Parish Hall, Tufnell Park; February 14, The same at the Cambridge House Hall, Camberwell, in aid of the Talbot Settlement; February 21, in "An Ideal Husband," by Oscar Wilde, at King George's Hall (Y.M.C.A.), Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1. Proceeds to the Toc H Sports Club and Toc H Entertainments (tickets from W. J. Musters at headquarters). TIC-TOCS.—January 5, at Fulham Town Hall (for Fulham Babies' Hospital); January 12, at St. Martin's Hall, Kensal Rise (for the C.L.B.); January 17, at the British Legion Hall, Amersham (for the Cottage Hospital); January 24, at Crowborough, 3 and 8 p.m. (for Boys' Club camp); January 28, at Surbiton (for Hospital and local Toc H).

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Our delegates, who brought back our Lamp, gave such a glowing account of the great Birthday Festival that we have all made up our minds to get to the next one. We had a very jolly gathering on Christmas Eve, with supper, followed by music, from our own members.

Meetings : Every Wednesday in the Toc H Room, 3rd floor, 14, Hood Street, at 8 p.m.
PITMAN.

NORTHAMPTON.—Our important notice for this month is a visit from Pat Leonard on December 10, with the object of interesting the town in our activities and the movement, and incidentally to raise funds for further schemes we hope to embark on. We entertained a number of prominent local public men to a luncheon, which was well attended, and Pat and our Executive put the matter eloquently before them. The gathering was a great success, and the funds expanded wonderfully. We are preparing to organise a Boys' Club early in the New Year. Pat afterwards came to see us in the evening,
R. L.

NORWICH.—The most exciting and inspiring event of the month has, of course, been the reception of our Lamp, which is dedicated to the memory of Gilbert Talbot, and is, therefore, of particular interest. Captain Colman, the donor, knew Gilbert well, not only at Oxford, but in the same regiment ; but for the fact that he happened at the time to be on the sick list, he would quite likely have shared Gilbert's fate. Ten of us, including the Lord Mayor of Norwich, got up to the Birthday Festival, and all were deeply touched by it, as they could not fail to be. Would that all the members of the Branch could have been there ! Unfortunately, like many others, the members from Norwich had to leave long before the Conference was over ; however, " Dickie," our jobmaster, opened the discussion after the reading of the first paper. With very much regret we record that, at a recent Committee Meeting, Smithson announced that he would soon be leaving for a job in the North of England, so you " up there " skin your eyes, for it will be a lucky branch that gets him.
WRITER.

OXFORD.—*Meeting* on February 1, Lord Hampton and Tubby are addressing a joint meeting of the O. U. Scout Club and Toc H on " The Common aims of Toc H and Scouting," at 9.30 p.m. in New College Hall. If any can come, we'll try to find them a table to sleep on.

PORTSMOUTH.—We are taking the advice of George Potter, one of our members now abroad, who says he " would like to see us jump into print more often." We are now settled down in our new home, 163, Victoria Road, N., kindly lent by H. Hersee, who is generally very busy talking to the deaf and dumb on his fingers, and is a real live wire. On November 4 Padre Meade of Mark V came over. We had got a bit down in the dumps about things generally but his visit put new life into us. On Armistice Day we placed a wreath to the memory of our Elder Brethren on the Portsmouth Cenotaph, and in the evening we had a service at St. James's Milton, our Padre Legg conducted the service, the most impressive part of which was the lighting of the Lamp with the church in darkness. On November 30 we had a great treat, Alec Paterson visited " Pompey " to speak at the Portsmouth Brotherhood ; we met him afterwards and spent a most enjoyable hour over tea (thanks to the hospitality of the Brotherhood). Before leaving to catch his train to town, he introduced us to Capt. Winter, Governor of Kingston Prison, who came as our guest on December 2 and spoke to us on " The Prisoner Inside the Gate," which proved very interesting.
CHIPS.

READING.—Our members are very proud of the fact that we are now a Branch, and are looking forward to an active time in 1925. About a dozen attended the Festival in London, and enjoyed ourselves at the London Marks. We are installing our Lamp in St. Saviour's Church on January 4 at 3.30 p.m.
BISCUITEER.

SOUTHAMPTON.—The Boys' Hostel is a real live show, and is full—or over-full—every night with a most delightful crowd of youngsters, some of whom spent Christmas with us at Mark V. On December 29 the 17th Southampton Sea Scouts, some 50 strong, were handed over to Padre Meade and Dick Purvis, R.N. This is going to be a great feature of our work in this coming year; we shall want a liner of our own before long! We managed to liven up the town on the last Saturday night of the year with a grand procession of motor lorries, &c., and collected over £60 for the Children's Hospital. Don't forget February 4 here with Tubby and Pat (see note p. 19.)

SOUTH SHIELDS.—We are firm friends with Jack-the-Sailor-boy, gave a side-show at his bazaar, and are visiting him on board on Christmas morning and feeding him ashore in the evening—a merry crowd of two to three hundred. Alderman E. Smith, a local Rotarian, spoke to us recently on the Rotary movement. We feel the responsibility of our recent promotion; new hopes and new work.

Meetings: Thursdays at 8 p.m. at the Missions to Seamen.

SCRIBBLER.

SPETISBURY-CUM-CHARLTON MARSHALL.—Two visits from Padre Meade heralded the birth of our Group. Village clubs belonging to both ends of our rather long name have approved our aims and given us ready hospitality. Five of us came up to the Birthday Party and one of these is going to help start Boy Scouts in Spetisbury, another already has his hands full with the Wolf Cubs at Charlton.

BILL DRURY.

STREATHAM.—We held our first guest night on December 16, at which 32 members and friends were present. Mr. G. Trafford-Hewitt gave a most interesting talk on "Housing." We are holding a dance on January 29 from 7.30—11 p.m. at St. Thomas's Hall in aid of our group funds. (Fancy or evening-dress; tickets, 2s. 6d. each, obtainable from any member of the group. All members welcome).

Meetings: Every Tuesday at Moolie's Tea Rooms, 41A, Streatham Hill; January 6, debate; January 13, Capt. W. Price will speak (supper at 7.30).

CYRIL.

WIMBORNE.—Our effort on behalf of St. Dunstan's was a success, and produced over £40—not bad for a small town. We are organising a ball for funds, and hope to use the profits for an entertainment at the Poor Law Institute. Our mock-parliament last month caused great interest in our doings.

G. M. L.

WORTHING.—Early in the month we had a visit from Birkmire, who gave us a real heart-to-heart talk that was greatly appreciated. We have also had a talk from Mr. W. B. Veysey, of the Portsmouth Prisoners' Aid Society. All prisoners convicted here are sent to Portsmouth Prison, and as a result of the meeting, our executive are considering the appointment of a correspondent to work with the Society and to pay especial regard to local cases.

M. A. P.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN HELPERS.

NORTH LONDON.—Since we last reported in the JOURNAL we have had a fairly busy three months. Odd jobs of all sorts and kinds seem to crop up continually, and, of course, we carry on with the old ones, the City girls and Toc H Lunch Clubs, sewing of all kinds (making or mending) for Mark VII, &c. We have embarked on a new venture in the Rhyl Street, L.C.C. School, Old Girls Club, which has now been running regularly for some time. Two sales in three months have entailed fairly strenuous labour. We were responsible for the Christmas Present Stall at the Central L. W. H. Sale in November, and since then have had a small sale of our own for Mark VII and "New June." We selected for the latter the worst day

in the year for fog, but we were able to hand over a cheque for £20 to Mark VII. Membership has grown from our original fourteen to twenty-five. "N. London" is a somewhat elastic term and we are a very scattered lot which makes branch meetings a difficulty. It is hoped that members will make as much use as possible of the "New June" guest nights on Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

N. H. E.

THE POCKET GUIDE TO TOC H

This list is printed quarterly in the JOURNAL. Alterations and additions are noted in the intervening issues.

Houses

- Mark I.—23 Queen's Gate Gardens, S.W.7
 " II.—123 St. George's Square, S.W.1
 " III.—148 York Road, London, S.E.1
 " IV.—Gartness, Victoria Park, Manchester
 " V.—The Firs, Bassett, Southampton
 " VI.—71 Newhall Street, Birmingham
 " VII.—15 Fitzroy Square, London, W.1
 " VIII.—Christ Church Road, Sheffield
 " IX.—29 St. Paul's Road, Clifton

- Mark X.—Clarendon House, Hull
 " XI.—44 Princess Road, Leicester
 " XII.—Shaw Royd, Halifax, Yorks
 " "Brothers' House."—119 Kennington Park Road, S.E.11
 Mark XIV.—1 Eccles Old Road, Salford
 " XV.—31, The Common, Woolwich, S.E.
 " XXII.—1 Jamaica Road, Bermondsey, S.E.16
 " I.—(Canada) 11 Kennedy St., Winnipeg
 " II.—(Canada) 180 Simcoe Street, Toronto

Toc H Hostel—Redville, Swindon

Branches

(The numbers in brackets refer to the order of foundation)

- Branch*
 ALDERSHOT (39)
 ALTRINCHAM (57)
 BARNET (10)
 BELFAST (58)
 BIRMINGHAM (17)
 BLACKBURN (42)
 BRADFORD (19)
 BRIGHTON (20)
 BRISTOL (9)
 CAMBRIDGE (4)
 CANTERBURY (35)
 CARDIFF (21)
 CHELTENHAM (2)
 COVENTRY (24)
 COLCHESTER (26)
 DEESIDE & DISTRICT (12)
 DERBY (33)
 DURHAM (14)
 EDINBURGH (8)
 EXETER (11)
 FARNHAM (30)
 GATESHEAD (56)
 GLASGOW (23)
 GRANTHAM (62)
 HALIFAX (31)
 HUDDERSFIELD (40)
 HULL (38)
 ILFORD (47)
 KENSWORTH (59)
 LEEDS (46)
 LEICESTER (27)
 LINCOLN (53)
 LIVERPOOL (18)
 LONDON (1) A. MARK I.
 B. MARK II.
 C. MARK III.

- Secretary*
 E. P. Miles, 2 Church Hill.
 J. F. Rodgers, 126, Stamford Park Road, Hale, Cheshire.
 W. H. Nicklin, 2 Station Terrace, New Barnet.
 W. S. Armour and J. R. Young, 143 Scottish Provident Buildings.
 J. W. McFeeters (*Queen's University Secretary*).
 E. E. Fenn, Mark VI, 71 Newhall Street.
 E. A. Riley, Woodland Crest, Queen's Park.
 A. E. Simpson, 209 Parkside Road, West Bowling.
 T. H. Flynn, The College, Brighton.
 W. S. Gange, Mark IX, 29 St. Paul's Road, Clifton.
 H. R. Corlett, Emmanuel College (*Assistant Secretary*).
 H. C. W. Barrett, c/o Bowes & Bowes, 1 Trinity St. (*Assistant Secretary*).
 W. H. Griffin, 7 Monastery Street.
 B. Walwyn Jones, 31 Despenser Street.
 W. Clarke, 3 Lansdowne Crescent.
 H. Green, 16 Shaftesbury Road.
 W. C. Paston, 48 Roman Road.
 J. E. Griffiths, 76 Ash Grove, Shotton, Chester.
 F. G. Creed, 80 Normanton Road.
 Donald Chitty, University College.
 H. Whitley, 27 Darnell Road.
 W. G. Michelmores, 18 Cathedral Yard.
 H. E. Wood, 2 Beavers Villas, West Street.
 A. Dodds, 190 Westbourne Avenue.
 D. C. Morris, Toc H, 140 Douglas Street.
 G. R. Pacey, 17 Union Street.
 H. C. Miller, 14 Milton Place.
 R. C. Taylor, c/o Taylor & Jones, Ltd., Honley.
 J. C. Watson, 62 Balfour Street.
 L. P. Newson, 45 Windsor Road.
 R. W. Tomlin, Council Houses, Kensworth, near Dunstable.
 Lt.-Col. W. Oddie, D.S.O., Sigsworth, Moortown, Leeds.
 E. Greasley, Mark XI, 44 Princess Road.
 E. Goodacre, 11 Laceby Street.
 B. N. Pringley, "Norwood," Formby, Lancs.
 J. Moore, 23 Queen's Gate Gardens, S.W.7.
 C. H. A. Lakin, 123 St. George's Square, S.W.1.
 F. H. Flower, 148 York Road, S.E.1.

LONDON (1) D. MARK VII.
E. BERMONDSEY.
G. KENNINGTON.
H. LEWISHAM.
J. BROMLEY.
K. CROYDON.
L. MAIDA VALE.
M. SIDCUP.
N. WIMBLEDON.
O. WOOLWICH.

MAIDSTONE (5)
MANCHESTER (3)
MIDDLESBROUGH (29)
NEWCASTLE (68)
NORTHAMPTON (34)
NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE (32)
NORTHWICH (44)
NORWICH (63)
NOTTINGHAM (60)
OXFORD (7)

PORTSMOUTH (15)
READING (67)
ROTHERHAM (52)
SALFORD (54)
SHEFFIELD (16)
SLEAFORD (36)
SOUTHAMPTON (25)
SOUTH SHIELDS (64)
SPEN VALLEY (22)
STOCKPORT (43)
SWINDON (6)
TAUNTON (51)
TUNBRIDGE WELLS (48)
WEST KENT (65)
WIMBORNE (66)
WINDERMERE (49)
WOLVERTON (13)
WORTHING (45)
CANADA—WINNIPEG (28)
S. AMERICA—BUENOS AIRES (50)
F. MALAY STATES (61)

J. de R. Wall, 15, Fitzroy Square, W.1.
W. H. Beeton, Mark XXII, 1 Jamaica Road, S.E.16.
G. R. R. Martin, 119 Kennington Park Road, S.E.
C. W. Bishopp, 47 Glenton Road, Lee, S.E.13.
Brig.-Gen. W. S. Turner, 14, Bickley Park Road, Bickley.
E. W. Wilson, 7 North End.
J. J. Lucraft, 41 Craven Road, Lancaster Gate, W.2.
E. W. Pitman, 3 Stafford Road.
R. C. Bryne, 24 St. George's Road, S.W.19.
R. E. Missing, "Jesmond Dene," Parkview Road, Welling, Kent.
H. R. Morris, Turkey Cottage, Ashford Road.
A. Foster, Mark IV, Upper Park Road, Victoria Park.
T. Baker, Jun., 105 Cambridge Road, Linthorpe.
E. Ayers, 87 Kenton Road, Gosforth.
J. W. Hudson, 160 Cedar Road.
T. C. Maynard, 17 Clive Street, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.
T. Senior, 4 Townfield Lane, Barnton.
T. Smith, c/o 22 Tombland.
A. W. Marriott, 21 Tennyson Street.
N. A. Gillespie, New College (*Gen. Secretary*).
H. W. Baines, Balliol (*Assistant Varsity Secretary*).
W. B. Rendall, 12 Magdalen Street (*Assistant Town Secretary*).
W. Turner, 28 Renny Road.
D. Royle, 24 Eldon Road.
A. Meakin, 50 Milton Road.
C. P. Hampson, Wentworth, Ellesmere Park, Eccles.
W. T. Richards, 21 Brighton Terrace Road, Crookes.
R. Broughton, 61 North Road.
Rev. L. G. Meade, Mark V, Bassett.
D. C. Anderson, 40 Garwood Street.
H. C. Mellor, 5 Highbury Terrace, Highgate Road, Dewsbury.
W. Greaves, 44 Brinksway.
T. L. Whipp, 226 Ferndale Road.
H. Wilson, 3 The Avenue, Taunton.
S. V. Berwick, 251 Upper Grosvenor Road.
F. C. Revers, The New Cottage, Stansted, near Wrotham.
E. Ash, 7 Ethelbert Terrace.
J. W. Longmire, The Sycamores.
J. A. Rose, 96 Anson Road.
G. S. Kerswell, 78 Montague Street.
W. H. Darracott, 574 Pine Street.
M. Pulbrook, Depto de Electricidad, Florida 783
R. J. B. Clayton, Teluk Anson, Perak, F.M.S.

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Group

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BENHILL
BOURNEMOUTH
CUDHAM
DEWSBURY
DONCASTER
FELLING
GLOUCESTER
GOOLE
GOSPORT
GRIMSBY
HAROLD WOOD
HARTLEPOOL
HASTINGS
HINCELEY
IPSWICH
LEAMINGTON
LEIGHTON BUZZARD
LICHFIELD
LIGHTCLIFFE

Secretary

Capt. G. H. Mansell, 3 Upper East Hayes.
E. L. J. Terry, 5 Sackville Road.
A. E. Gorman, 11 Wolverton Road, Boscombe.
R. S. Forbes, 7 Coronation Terrace, Biggin Hill, Westerham, Kent.
J. Gibson, 6 Wood Street.
C. P. Sweeting, 11, Priory Place.
T. Wood, 15 Willow Grove, Felling, Co. Durham.
L. Dimmer, Greystones, Tuffley Avenue.
C. S. Hinsley, 53 Henry Street.
A. Saunders, 65 Mayfield Road.
R. F. Langley, 19, Macaulay Street.
H. F. Manning, Kingsgate, Harold Wood, Essex.
S. Scott, 26 Stanhope Avenue, W. Hartlepool.
A. Wells, 114 Milward Road.
H. Wilson, 12 Mount Road.
Rev. C. O. George, 6 Burlington Road.
A. F. Atkinson, St. Mary's Lodge, Leamington Spa.
C. Hubbins, 44 George Street, and F. Sears, 15 Vandyke Road.
Noel Round, Theological College, Lichfield.
L. Brear, Laurel Bank, Lightcliffe, Yorks.

LONDON AND DISTRICT :

CHelsea
EALING
HAMMERSMITH
ISLINGTON
KINGSTON & SURBITON
NORWOOD
STEPNEY
STREATHAM
SYDENHAM
TOWER HILL
"THE CADIES' GROUP"

LOUGHBOROUGH
LUTON
MAESTEG
MANSFIELD
OLDHAM
RET福德
RUGBY
SALISBURY
SPETISBURY-CUM-CHARLTON
WEDNESFIELD
WIGAN
WOLVERHAMPTON
YARMOUTH

CANADA AND U.S.A. :
BRITISH COLUMBIA
MONTREAL
TORONTO
VANCOUVER
PHILADELPHIA

S. M. W. Sheppard, 16 Alexandra Mansions, S.W.3.
G. M. Oakeshott, 26, Mount Park Crescent, W.5.
P. E. Curnock, 30 Avenue Gardens, Acton, W.3.
E. G. Gough, 36 Hawthorne Road, N.18.
M. Saxon Snell, 92 Cotterill Road, Surbiton.
F. Coulson, 56A Central Hill, Upper Norwood, S.E.19.
Rev. G. L. de G. Martyr, 15 Graham Street, S.W.1.
C. E. B. Collins, 38, Killieser Avenue, Streatham Hill, S.W.2.
N. Bullard, 14 Laurie Park Crescent, S.E.26.
R. Simons, All Hallows' Porch Room, Byward Street, E.C.3
A. J. Timms, 42 Sun Street, E.C.2.
P. R. Fowler, 13 Victoria Street.
J. V. Vass, 45 Chapel Street.
J. W. Cooper, 48 Heath Road, Maesteg, Glam.
Rev. J. R. Redrobe, 95 Rosemary Street.
N. D. Aikinstall, 20 Hale Lane, Failsforth.
F. B. Lane, 24 Cross Street, Newtown.
F. R. James, 156 Railway Terrace.
L. C. Bryant, 4 Downton Road.
Rev. W. E. Drury, Spetisbury Vicarage, near Blandford, Dorset
P. M. Lloyd, 142, Nordley Hill, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton.
P. F. Kinsey, 22 King Street.
Horace Jones, 49 Oak Street.
A. V. Bean, 60 Wolseley Road, Southdown.

T. Kirkby, Customs, Port of Huntingdon.
Ian Collins, Secretary's Office, C.P.R. Building.
F. B. Webb, 180 Simcoe Street.
Fred Whitehead, 1141 Hornby Street.
Lewis H. Lukens, junr., 321 Walnut Street

League of Women Helpers

General Secretary: Miss Macfie, L.W.H. Office, 23 Queen's Gate Gardens, London, S.W.-
L.W.H. House: New June, 50 Great Tower Street, E.C.3.

Secretary.

Miss R. Stapleton, Selly Oak Hospital.
Miss E. Forrest, 8 Hamer Avenue.
Miss Field, 51 Brunswick Square, Hove.
Mrs. Urwin, 23 The Promenade.
Miss D. Jones, 24 Ryeland Street, Shotton, near Chester.
Mrs. Young, 34 Sylvan Road.
Miss F. Elliott, 29 Norfolk Mount.
Mrs. Boreham, 6 Springfield Avenue, Middleton Street.

Lady Pinhey, 7 Milborne Grove, The Boltons, S.W.
Miss Williams, 91c Grosvenor Road, S.W.1.
Miss Richardson, 61 Belgrave Road, S.W.1.
Mrs. Ellison, 45 Circus Road Mansions, N.W.8.
Miss E. Hill, 22 Tregunter Road, S.W.10.
Miss Marlborough, 40 Dunmore Road.
Mrs. Watford, 874 Stockport Road, Longsight.
Mrs. Rogers, 4 Brown Street.
Mrs. Edwards, Ainderley, Chatsworth Road, Eccles.
Miss J. Jack, 16 Crabtree Lane, Pitsmoor.

Secretary.

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Miss M. R. Wide, Walcot House, 128, Richmond Road.
Mrs. Wigfield, 5 Gladstone Terrace.

Miss M. R. Stewart, 688 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.
Miss Pace, 7 Tyndale Place, Upper Street, N.1.
Miss Marshall, 14 Vermont Road, Upper Norwood.
Mrs. Large, Kingstead, Layton Grove.
Mrs. Tickner, 2 Parks Road.

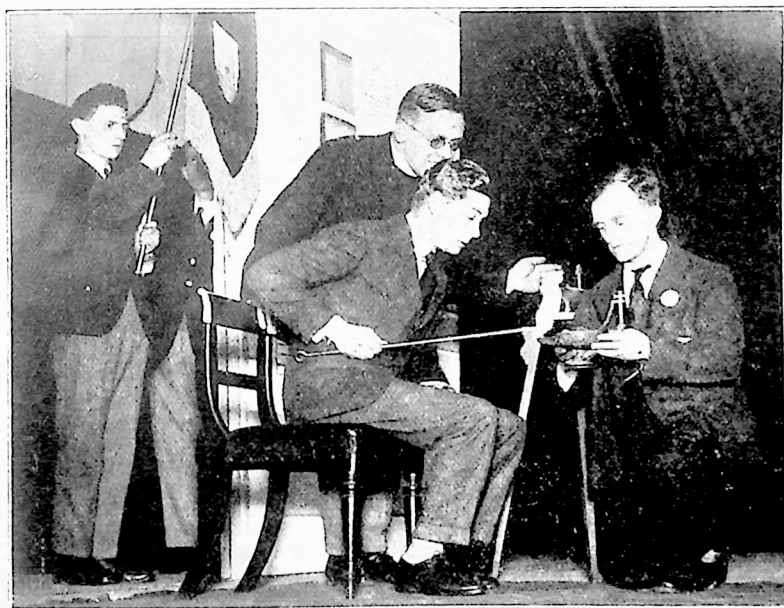
Branch.
BIRMINGHAM
BLACEBURN
BRIGHTON
CHELTENHAM
DEESIDE
EXETER
HALIFAX
HULL
LONDON :
KENSINGTON
PIMLICO
N. LONDON
S. LONDON
WIMBLEDON
MANCHESTER
ROTHERHAM
SALFORD
SHEFFIELD
Group.
BRISTOL
CARDIFF
GRANTHAM
LONDON :
E.C. AND S.E.
ISLINGTON
NORWOOD
MANSFIELD
OXFORD

A LITTLE SUPPLEMENT OF BIRTHDAY PICTURES



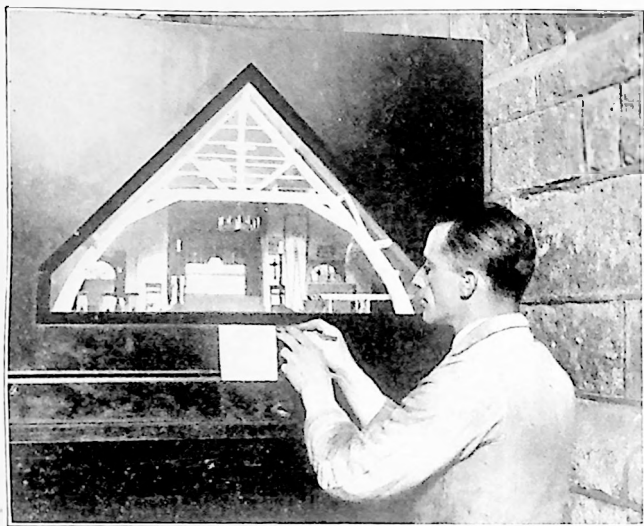
TORCHLIGHT ON TOWER HILL

*"Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below."*

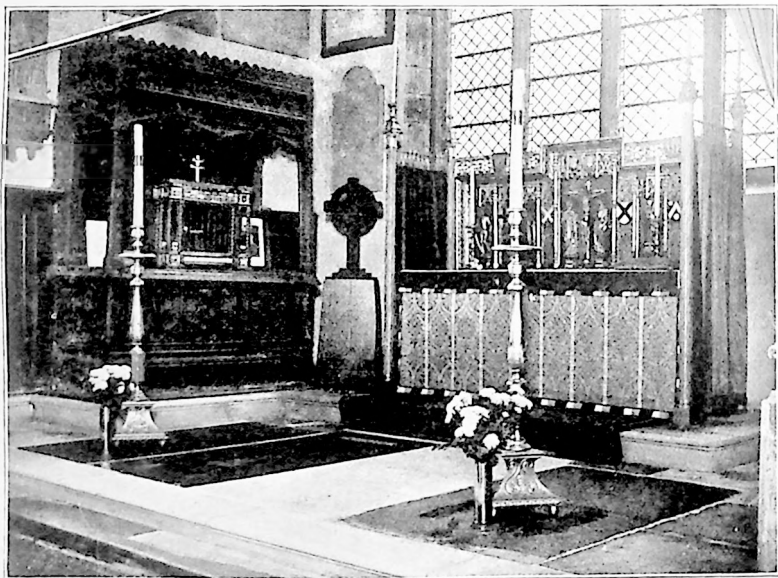


LAMPLIGHTING AT THE MEMORIAL HALL.

"Our spirit of 'Toc II is always symbolised by the Lamps we have lit to-night. Let us try to keep them on untarnished."



This model, perfect in every detail, of the Upper Room at Poperinghe, is a replica of that in the Imperial War Museum. Both were made by H. H. Carwood, who went with a T. E. C. II Pilgrimage to Belgium in 1921 to make drawings and measurements. The artist is seen putting finishing touches to the model which was set up, in time for the Birthday, in its place in the Porch of All Hallows.



THE RESTORED SANCTUARY OF THE COEUR DE LION CHAPEL, ALL HALLOWS

Showing the Prince's Lamp and Casket, the Battle Cross of Gilbert Talbot, and the temporary altar, made by Mr. Blacking, and lent to T. E. C. II by Donald Wippell (who makes the Lamps of Maintenance).